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**DRAGOON EXPEDITION—INDIAN TALKS.**

[CONTINUED FROM THE LAST NUMBER.]

June 29th.—Passed the head of Grand island, at which place the valley becomes much wider, the soil sandy, with frequent efflorescences of sulphate of soda, which is said to indicate the proximity of salt springs. Grand island is about sixty miles long, and in many places, two or three miles wide. It is covered with timber, consisting of oak, mulberry, cotton-wood, etc., and hides the opposite bank of the river entirely from our view. The river above this island is from a mile to a mile and a half wide, and very rapid, probably from three to three and a half miles an hour; very shallow, the general depth now, though unusually high, not more than three or four feet. But little timber on this side of the river; marched thirty miles.

The march was continued on the 30th, in a direction S. 85° W. The country similar in its general appearance to that of yesterday. The soil principally composed of dry, yellow sand. The grass short and thick, with recent appearance of buffalo; but little wood.

On the 1st July, marched twenty, and 2d, twenty-three miles, in a direction N. 65° W. The valley wider; the soil the same. The sand-hills, which terminate the valley on this side of the river

were much higher and more irregular and angular in their appearance than heretofore, resembling large rocks at a distance; wood more abundant. Captain Gantt left the camp with the Arickara chief, The Star, for the purpose of collecting the Arickaras together, who we heard were near the forks of the Platte.

On the 3d the march was resumed in a direction N. 70° W. Crossed two small creeks, upon one of which we found the deserted camp of the Arickaras, and about half a mile beyond it another, which appeared to have been recently occupied. Their lodges, which they make of bushes, covered with blankets and skins, were placed around in the circumference of a circle, the diameter of which was three or four hundred yards in length. In the centre of their encampment was placed what was called their medicine lodge, a large circular lodge, built of poles in the form of a cylinder, surmounted by a cone. The cylinder was about fifteen feet high, and the axis of the cone about eight feet. They had tied one of their red coats upon the top of the centre pole, and had suspended red blankets and buffalo skins, from different parts of the lodge. One of the Indians had cut off his finger near the second joint, and had suspended it, together with a little crooked stick, on the centre pole, about eight feet from the ground. There were traces of blood around the whole interior of the lodge. Some one, while bleeding, appeared to have run around the centre pole. They had two buffalo heads arranged on one side of the lodge, pointing towards the east. This was for the purpose of bringing the buffalo from the west towards this point. These Indians frequently scarify their bodies, and inflict corporeal pain upon themselves, for the purpose of appeasing the anger of the Great Spirit, that he may make them successful in their hunts, and against their enemies. The valley at this point is terminated by a succession of irregular hills, of considerable height. The intermediate valleys, or ravines, are covered with timber of a small growth, and on the side of the hills we saw fruit of various sorts, such as plums, cherries, etc. The Kansas river takes its rise in these hills, and runs in a south-easterly direction, nearly parallel with the Platte. The Platte is divided at this point into two forks, nearly equal, called the North and South forks. From the top of one of the highest hills, we had an extensive view of the country for many miles. In front we saw the two forks of the Platte, gliding gently along through their separate valleys, until they met, and mingled with the broad stream itself: beyond this, a high ridge of hills, forming a dark outline along the horizon, gave a fine back-ground to the picture. In rear of us there was a long succession of hills, covered with scattered groves of timber; and we saw the feathery outline of some tall trees, at an immense distance, just shooting up above the horizon. At the top of this hill we found more medicine. The Indians had collected a large number of buffalo heads, and arranged them around in a circular form, their heads pointing towards the centre. This was for the purpose of bringing the buffalo from every direction to this point, that the Indians might

find a plenty of them here, next year, when they came to hunt. The soil upon the surface of this hill is composed of fine yellow sand; but upon digging to the depth of one or two feet, we came to a mass of rock, of a coarse, sandy texture, a dull, glimmering lustre of a grayish color, and so brittle as to yield to the nail: it was supposed, from its external character, to be magnesian limestone. The whole of this range of hills appears to be composed of it.

4th.—Marched in a direction N. 80° W., a distance of 25 miles. The valley of the river wider, the country more level, and the soil more fertile during this day's march. In the evening saw a large herd of buffalo, the first we have seen.

5th.—Remained encamped. Captain Gantt arrived with the chiefs and principal warriors of the Arickaras. The Arickaras are considered the wildest and most savage tribe of Indians west of the Mississippi, and have always been characterized by a want of faith in their promises, and an inveterate hostility to the whites, killing all they could meet. They are at war with most of the surrounding nations, and large numbers of them are killed every year. They formerly lived on the Missouri river, but were driven from this country by the Sioux, with whom they have long been at war. They have now no land that they can call their own; and are wandering about like the Arabs of the desert, killing and robbing almost every one they meet. They were originally a band of the Pawnee Loups, and had been living with them for some time previous to our arrival; and had, no doubt, by their influence, kindled that warlike spirit, which seemed to exist among the Pawnees at the time we were at their village. The Loups, it appeared, had treated them with great hospitality and kindness; in return for which they had stolen a number of the Pawnee horses. They were the best looking tribe of Indians we had seen, and were dressed in a more gay and fantastic manner. Their dress consisted of a shirt made of buffalo skins, finely dressed, either of a white or yellowish color, and ornamented with different colored beads. It was trimmed along the sides, and around the neck, with long, coarse hair, of several colors. Their leggins and moccasins were made of the same material, but were generally white, beautifully embroidered with beads. There are now about two thousand two hundred of them in all, numbers of them having lately been killed by their numerous enemies. They begin to feel sensible of their true condition, and the necessity of making peace; and if they could get the piece of land they desire so much, they would probably reform, and become a peaceful and industrious nation. The Colonel held a council with them, at which he addressed them as follows:

“Chiefs and Braves of the Arickara Nation of Indians:

“I am happy to see you on my march to the Rocky Mountains. I expected to have met you near the Pawnee village. On my arrival at the village of the Grand Pawnees, I was informed a Kan-



zas Indian had told you I was coming with the dragoons to kill you and your people. This report was false and unfounded. Your great father, the President of the United States, is at peace with all his red children. He has pity on them, and wishes to extend to them the hand of protection and friendship. A great nation will always protect, and never kill the defenceless. It is cowards alone who do so. Your great father wishes to see you living at a permanent home, where you can cultivate the soil, and raise corn and cattle; he wishes you to change your course, and live at peace with your red brethren; you have been, and are now, at war with many nations of Indians; you have had many of your people killed, and you have killed many of your enemies, and you are now, as a nation of people, in a worse condition than you were when you first engaged in war. You have been driven from your country by the Sioux, and are now without a home, and are constantly travelling in search of buffalo, and to avoid your numerous enemies. By pursuing this course your nation will be reduced as to numbers; and you will ultimately fall a prey to your enemies. I will inform your great father, the President, of your true situation; if you follow his advice you may still exist as a nation, and have a home where you can raise corn and live at peace. I advise you to cultivate the most friendly understanding with the Pawnees. They are now friendly to you, and will no doubt continue so, if your conduct merits their friendship. I will recommend to your great father that you should have a small country set apart for you; if possible, near your friends the Pawnees. Situated as you are, travelling over a large extent of country, you are viewed as the common enemies of all nations; you are charged with killing small parties of the Americans, when you find them weak and defenceless; stealing their horses, robbing and plundering them. Should you continue this course, ruin and destruction must await you. You are now charged with stealing horses from the Delawares, and your friends, the Pawnees. These horses you should not hesitate to deliver to their owners. If you do acts of injustice to all nations, you may expect them all to unite to destroy you as a people. I am now speaking to you the language of truth. I have but one heart and one tongue, and hope my words will be listened to and remembered when I am far from you. It is my duty to be plain with you, and not to speak to you with a forked tongue. I am on my march to the Rocky mountains. My object is not to make war upon the different nations of Indians, but to extend to them the hand of peace and friendship, and to make peace with the different nations that are at war with each other, as far as it may be in my power. Should an attempt be made to kill any part of my command, or to steal my horses, the guilty shall not escape. The warrior who is slow to anger, is the most terrible when forced to action; such is the character of your great father, the President of the United States. He is mild in peace, but terrible in war; his enemies have always fled before him from the field of battle; you see but few mounted men



with me; it was not the wish of your great father to alarm you and other remote nations of Indians with the appearance of a large army, which he could have sent here with as much ease as the few warriors you see with me. The cannon you see here are small in comparison with the large guns that could be sent to this country. Your great father sent me last year to see the Pawnee Picts, Camanches, and Kiowas, who had been at war with the United States. They made peace, and some of their chiefs accompanied me to Fort Gibson, where they smoked the pipe of peace with their old enemies, the Cherokees, Creeks, Choctaws, Osages, Senecas, and Delawares. These nations agreed to bury the war hatchet forever. It is the wish of your great father that you bury the hatchet of war with your numerous enemies; it is your good alone that he desires: you have no country; you are poor; your great father wishes all his red children to inhabit the same country; to cultivate the most friendly understanding with each other; and that the Indian race should not be destroyed, but be a prosperous and happy people. His wish is to promote the welfare of all the red people, without expecting any advantage from them. I am done. I will give you a few presents, and some tobacco, as an evidence of the great regard your great father has for his remote red children. His wish is, that when you meet the Americans, you will consider them your friends: your future prospects will greatly depend upon your conduct this year; you have your choice between good and evil; I hope you will choose the good and avoid the evil; your fate as a nation depends upon your choice. The day is fine; the sky is clear of clouds, and I hope, as we are all in presence of the Great Spirit, that truth alone will be spoken upon this occasion."

The BLOODY HAND, principal chief, replied:

"My father, I did not think I should see you; but I see you to-day; I have for a long time been travelling over this country, and to-day the Great Spirit came to me and told me to listen. My heart feels large upon seeing my father here; I am glad you have spoken, and I hope it will enter the young men's ears. I have not much to say, more than what has been said. I have always been as if I was dead; I have been wishing to see you for a long time, and to day I expect to remember the words you have spoken to us.

"My father, I was glad you sent the interpreter to our village for us, and that you would give us some land to live upon; I am travelling all over this country, and am cutting the trees of my brothers; I don't know whether they are satisfied or not, but we have no land of our own. I am travelling on their land, and killing their buffalo before my friends arrive, so that when they come up, they can find no buffalo. We want land so that we can kill buffalo with them. My father, I am very poor, and would like to get a piece of land, that I might live with my brothers. We would like to live upon land near the Pawnees, and have the privilege of hunting, as well as them."

The Two BULLS, another chief, then said :

" My father, who would not listen to what you have said? Yesterday I was following your trail, to-day I have come to you ; I am always behind, but what you have said to day has entered my ears. It is true, our village has always been a great way off, but to-day we can understand what you say. Now if you give us a piece of land near you, so that when we do wrong you can find us, our young men will conduct themselves well. My father, to-day I am surrounded entirely by the whites ; let me go where I will, I find them. It is true, my father, I have been travelling for a long time, all over this country, and never had ears. It is true that you love us, as you give us tobacco to smoke, and you give us land. Who would not love you for this? My father I have been very poor ; it is as if you had taken us out of the ground. If you take us and put us on a piece of ground, and tell us where it is, next year you will find us there. It is true, our young men have stolen horses, but we have returned them to the Grand Pawnees. My father, we wish you would give us the land on this side of the river below here, (meaning the south side of the Platte, near the forks.) My father, all that you have said to-day is true, and we have listened well to what you have said. We had heard that one of our young men was killed, and we were going to war again, but now we will not go. My father, we are all very poor. When we kill buffalo we have no knives to butcher them with, and we have no tobacco to smoke. We were very glad to hear to-day that you would give us a piece of land, but we have no axes to cut wood and make lodges. My father, the whites are always travelling through this country, and should we meet them in the prairie, they will have no cause to complain of us. I am very glad to hear what you have said, as we will now be able to go out and kill buffalo, and sell their skins for axes and hoes, with which we can build lodges and raise corn. My father, we are very glad to hear what you have said to us. Now, when we see a white man, we will not be afraid to go out and meet him and get a pipe full of tobacco, and some powder to put in our horns."

The BIG-HEAD, or STAR, another chief, then spoke :

" My father, you see me here, a poor man ; we are all very poor ; and I am glad to hear from you and our great father, that you will give us an ear to hear and a heart to understand. I am glad to hear, my father, that you are trying to make peace with us and the surrounding nations, and I shall now not be afraid to go among all the different tribes. My father, I have been travelling from nation to nation, trying to make peace, and when I had made peace my young men would steal horses. I hope now, they have heard you, they will listen to what you have said. All the chiefs and braves are here, and they have ears to hear as well as myself. My father, I never yet have killed a white man ; when I have seen them in danger, I have always tried to save them. I

love the whites, and have always endeavored to do them good. I have heard of my great father, the President, ever since I was a little child, and to-day I see mine; for that reason I have always endeavored to act correctly. My father, I never was afraid to go to the whites; I always loved them, and knew if I did right they would not hurt me. It is true, my father, that I am very poor, but what I have said is correct. My father, to-day is a fine day for our talk; the sky is clear, and heaven and earth hear what we say; and to-day we will leave the evil behind and take to the good. My father, what you have said to-day is all true. We were very poor, but now that you are to give us land, we will no longer be poor. All the chiefs and braves are here, and they will listen to what you say; and hereafter they will be able to buy knives, tobacco, etc. of the traders. My father, when you come next time, you will perhaps bring some hoes and axes for our squaws; they are now very poor and have nothing."

The Two Bulls gave Colonel Dodge a hunting shirt, finely ornamented with beads, and a pair of leggins, the only one he had, and said: "My father, you see me here to-day; I have but one old shirt which I give to you. All of my young men are just like me. When I started for the Platte, in following your trail, I found this old knife, and having no knife to butcher my buffalo, the Great Spirit told me to take this." He then gave the knife to Colonel Dodge, who returned it to him, and told him to keep it, and gave him another in addition, to reward him for this exhibition of his honesty.

After the council, presents of blankets, strouding, knives, tobacco, etc. were distributed among them, at which they were greatly pleased. It was treating them so much better than they knew they deserved, that they were quite overjoyed; and it will, no doubt, produce a very beneficial effect upon them.

The council was held on the 5th of July, about twenty miles above the forks of the Platte. The day was beautiful, the sky clear and cloudless, the air fresh and balmy. On one side of us was the river, on the other a vast extended prairie, not a tree in sight, or a moving being save ourselves. It was the stillness and solitude of nature. The Indians were seated around in a circle, with their pipes in their hands, listening with the most profound attention to every word that was uttered. They appeared like prodigal children returning once more to their father's home. The whole scene was one of the most grand and impressive I had ever witnessed; and such a one as the pencil of the painter, or the imagination of the poet would delight to portray.

July 6th.—The Indians left us this morning with many thanks and expressions of gratitude. They told some Delawares that were with us, if they would accompany them to their village, they would return them the horses that had been stolen from them last year. Marched twenty miles; on the 7th we marched sixteen, on the 8th, eighteen, and on the 9th, seventeen miles, in a direction



about S. 80° W. The country, at this period of our march, began to assume a different character. We had, heretofore, been marching through a level and fertile valley, terminated by hills alternating from high to low, with a sufficient quantity of wood for fuel. The elements of the scene were now an unbounded prairie, a broad river, with innumerable herds of buffalo grazing upon its banks, and occasionally a solitary tree standing in bold relief against a clear blue sky. These elements, combined with the skill of nature's artist, formed one of the finest landscapes I had ever seen. Our command, at this period of the march, was in a perfect state of health; not a man upon the sick report: the horses in fine order: the weather fine. Had established friendly relations with all the Indians in the section of country through which we had passed. Every thing, in fact, contributed to lend to the scene around us all its additional charms. The buffalo surrounded us in large herds, making the prairie almost black by their immense numbers. Saw, also, great numbers of antelopes, and some deer. The soil was of course dry sand or gravel. The grass short, thick, and dry. No timber; were obliged to make use of buffalo dung in cooking. This section of country is what is called the neutral ground, and extends from the forks of the Platte almost to the foot of the mountains. It will not admit of the permanent residence of any Indians, and is only frequented by the war parties of different nations. The Arapahos and Cheyennes sometimes move into this country for a short time during the summer, to hunt buffalo. On the evening of the 9th, arrived near a cotton-wood grove, the first timber we had seen since we left the forks of the Platte. The country here began to exhibit a more rugged and rocky appearance.

10th.—The grazing being good and the buffalo numerous, the colonel determined to remain encamped during the day. Two parties of hunters were sent out, who brought in an abundance of buffalo meat. Saw a large drove of wild horses. The weather remarkably fine; the air clear and pure, with a fresh breeze from the mountains.

11th.—Marched twenty; 12th, twenty-two; 13th, twenty, and 14th twenty miles, in a direction S. 60° W. The general face of the country more broken and irregular in its appearance than heretofore. Passed a long high range of hills on the opposite side of the river, containing a considerable quantity of rock. The valley more narrow, and terminated by sand hills, which gave to the country a barren appearance. Prickly pear and wild sage, plants that indicate a barren soil, begin to abound. Crossed several dry creeks, some of them of considerable size. These creeks, most of them, contain water near the mouth, but before it reaches the Platte it is all absorbed by the soil, which at this place is very sandy. Saw immense herds of buffalo during the whole of this stage of the march. No wood, except the drift that was picked up along the banks of the Platte. Saw more wild horses.

15th.—Marched twenty miles in a direction S. 70 W. Crossed

a serpentine creek of considerable size; entered upon a high prairie, and came to an old deserted Indian camp, supposed to have been lately occupied by the Arapahas. The poles of the medicine lodge were still standing, and some of the emblems of their worship, such as buffalo heads, painted arrows, etc. After we had encamped, towards night, the clouds which had been lowering around the western horizon cleared away, and discovered to us a beautiful bird's eye view of the Rocky mountains. This sight was hailed with joy by the whole command. We saw the end of the march—the long-wished-for object of all our hopes. They at first resembled white conical clouds, lying along the edge of the horizon. The rays of a setting sun upon their snow-clad summits gave to them a beautiful and splendid appearance.

16th.—Marched twenty, and 17th twenty-two miles, in a direction S. 70° W. The valley of variable width and terminated by sand-hills, which appear to extend back as far as the eye can see. The only vegetation upon them is a species of wild sage, which the Buffalo eat in winter, and a few prickly pear.

18th.—Marched 20 miles in a direction N. 80° W., the country uneven, and sand-hills in the back ground. Passed the mouth of the Cache de la poudre, a large stream, emptying into the Platte on the opposite side, with timber on its banks. The buffalo numerous.

19th.—Marched twenty, and on the 20th marched eighteen miles, in a direction about S. 40° W. The river here makes a considerable bend to the south, and runs for some distance nearly parallel with the mountains. Passed over a large sand-hill, upon the top of which we found oyster shells, that appeared to have lain there for ages. They were so brittle that they broke when pressed between the fingers. The face of the country variable: it appears to be arranged in a succession of benches, commencing at the river; there is at first a low flat from a half to a mile and a half wide, where the grass is good. It is generally wet with streams running through it. Above this there is another bench of about the same width, of dry hard prairie, with a gravelly soil. The grass upon this, which is called buffalo grass, is short, thick, and dry. Above this there is still another bench, where the sand-hills commence and rise gradually as they recede from the river. The only vegetable upon them is a species of wild sage.

21st.—Remained encamped—the weather warm. From this place it is about twenty miles to the mountains. The river at this point is clearer, narrower and more rapid than it is below, and the water much colder. Saw immense herds of buffalo in every direction.

22d.—Marched twenty miles, and 23d twenty miles, in a direction about S. 15° E. The country, as we approach the mountains, begins to assume a more rough and broken appearance; timber more abundant; saw several sorts of wild fruit, such as plums, cherries, gooseberries, etc. Passed several creeks that were dry, some of them skirted with timber. One of them

the traders usually ascend in passing from the Platte to the Arkansas. The distance from the Platte to the Arkansas is about ninety or one hundred miles, and this is considered the nearest and most accessible point between them.

24th.—Marched in a direction S.  $70^{\circ}$  W. for about five miles, until we came to a small valley near the mountains, then made a detour to the left, and took a direction parallel to the mountains, about S.  $20^{\circ}$  E.; left the Platte at this point, and commenced crossing to the Arkansas, close under the mountains. Passed near the point where the Platte issues out of the mountains. It takes its rise in a valley some distance back, and before it reaches the foot of the last range it becomes a considerable stream, running with the rapidity of a mountain torrent; the water is very cold, and clear as crystal. The valley of the creek which we ascended, was terminated on both sides by a high range of mountains. On the west, at the distance of four or five miles, the first range of the Rocky mountains commenced. On the east were the mountains of the dividing ridge between the Arkansas and the Platte. The mountains of the first range are covered with pine of a low growth. In the valley, upon the banks of the creek, and near the base of the mountains, there is a considerable quantity of timber of various sorts, such as oak, cotton-wood, black-jack, etc. The soil in the bottoms, which is of an alluvial nature, is very fertile. Upon the sides and tops of the mountains there are vast quantities of loose rock, which appear to be principally sandstone, and have the appearance in many places, of having been worn into different forms by the washing of water. The creek we ascended we called the Crystal creek, from the circumstance of our finding some fine specimens of rock crystal of a considerable size. There were formerly large numbers of beaver upon this creek, but they have all been caught by the different trappers who frequent it. Saw no buffalo, but the deer are numerous.

25th.—Marched eighteen miles in a direction parallel to the mountains, S.  $20^{\circ}$  E.; crossed several small creeks, most of them skirted with timber. The water coming directly from the mountains was clear and cold. The first range of mountains, which is about one thousand five hundred or two thousand feet high, hides the second range almost entirely from our view; but we could occasionally, through the deep ravines and passes, discover the snow tops of the second and higher ranges. The mountains appear to possess every variety of form and shape; the ascent to some is gradual and covered with timber, others appear to be formed of immense masses of rock superimposed upon each other. We encamped in the evening in a valley, surrounded on every side with mountains, with narrow passes between them. The high broken range of mountains appeared like ruined castles, with turrets and rock-crowned battlements. Through the green passes, we caught distant views of mountains in the back ground, forming a dark line along the horizon, relieved by a cloudless sky of pure cerulean blue.



26th.—Marched twenty-five miles, in a direction S. 30° E.; passed through a narrow valley between two high ridges of mountains, and ascended a hill of considerable height, from the top of which we had a beautiful view of the surrounding scenery. Beneath us lay a green verdant valley that appeared to have been scooped out of the mountains, and resembled the hollow between two large ocean waves. At a distance, terminating the valley, were mountains of various form; some in the shape of pyramids, others like truncated cones with circular and elliptical bases. As we descended the hill and wound along through the narrow valley, terminated by mountains of various shapes, some of them with a smooth regular contour, others consisting of large masses of rock piled one upon the other, every turn of the road presented a new variety of scenery. After passing through this valley, we ascended another hill, from the top of which a new scene was presented to our view. The mountains were in the form of an immense fortification, with turrets and rock-crowned battlements, and pine trees along the covered line, relieved against a clear blue sky. The different passes between the mountains appeared to be guarded by large terraced watch towers. Crossed the dividing ridge between the waters of the Platte and Arkansas. Upon the summit level there is a lake about half a mile long and four or five hundred yards wide. The small streams on one side of this run into the Platte, and on the other into the Arkansas. After crossing the dividing ridge, the view becomes more extended; the hills on our left not so high, and the country began to assume the appearance of a high rolling prairie. We struck the head-waters of one of the branches of the Fontaine qui bouille, down which we continued our course to the main valley.

July 27th.—Marched eighteen miles, in a direction S. 25° E. The country more level, the valley of greater width. Arrived at the main valley of the Fontaine qui bouille, which is five or six miles wide; extends in a direction nearly perpendicular to the general direction of the mountains, and gradually widens as you recede from them. It is terminated on the right by a high and broken range, that has an irregular and nodulated appearance, projecting up to a considerable distance in the back ground. Pike's peak was in full view, its snow-clad summit towering up to an immense height. From this valley it is but two days' ride to the waters of the Rio del Norte, and but three to Taos, one of the Mexican provinces.

28th.—Remained encamped; visited the Fontaine qui bouille, or spring that boils, a mineral spring near the foot of Pike's peak. The water boils up out of a limestone rock, forming a basin two or three feet in diameter, and of about the same depth; it has a pleasant acid taste, and was thought to possess properties similar to the waters of Saratoga; it is directly in the pass leading from the Fontaine qui bouille to Rio Salard, a large valley in the mountains, where the Arepahas frequently pitch their lodges and remain encamped for a considerable length of time during the sum-

mer. We ascended the mountains along the ravine that forms the bed of the Fontaine qui bouille, and saw the mountain torrent washing down through the pass, forming numerous cascades and water-falls, as it came tumbling down the high rocks. From this we ascended one of the peaks, to the distance of about a mile above the level of the plain. From the top of this we had a beautiful and extensive view of the country for many miles; we saw the timber upon the Arkansas and the Platte, and a large extent of waving prairie country, lying between the two rivers. To the right, at an immense distance, we could see the feathery and indistinct outline of the Spanish peaks, just rising above the visible horizon; while in our rear there lay a long succession of high ranges of mountains, until the snowy summits of the last and highest appeared to meet and mingle with the clouds. Nature appears here to have thrown aside her wild and sportive mood, and to have given to the whole scene the deepest impress of grandeur and sublimity. As we had no barometer or mathematical instrument for taking heights, it was impossible to form an accurate estimate of the altitude of any of these mountains; but, upon ascending one of the first and lowest, and travelling constantly for five or six hours, at an angle of ascent of nearly  $45^{\circ}$ , we found the apparent distance to Pike's peak (the lowest that was covered with snow) but little diminished. Another proof of their immense height, is the long distance the snow extends below the tops of the mountains. Upon some of the highest it appeared to extend more than half way down their apparent heights, probably for the distance of a mile or more. Upon the top of the mountains we ascended we found immense masses of primitive rock piled up to a great height; but near the base of the mountains, and upon some of the lesser heights, the rock appears to be of a sandy texture. Found a number of fine specimens of mineral of different species near the base of the mountains, on the banks and in the beds of the small creeks. We saw also a species of goat, which is said to live entirely in the mountains, leaping from rock to rock, and living upon the shrubbery which grows upon the side of the mountains. The valley of the Fontaine qui bouille is very much frequented by the Indians, especially by the Arepahas, who come up here in the fall to gather the wild fruit that grows in abundance near the base of the mountains. The whole route, from the Platte to the Arkansas is frequented by large parties of the Blackfeet, Crows, Snakes, and sometimes the Eutaus, who live upon the waters of the Rio del Norte, but frequently come over through the mountain passes to steal horses from the Arepahas and Cheyennes.

29th.—Marched twenty miles, in a direction S. E. along the valley of the Fontaine qui bouille; the soil fertile, consisting of gravel and clay; in some places the gravel, in others the clay preponderating. Two Spaniards from Taos arrived at our camp; they came over for the purpose of trading with the Indians, for whom they were then looking. Their stock, which consisted of

whiskey and flour, they had left on the opposite side of the Arkansas.

30th.—Marched in a direction S. 50° E. ; left the valley of the Fontaine qui bouille, and crossed the dividing ridge between that and the Arkansas. From the top of the ridge we had a fine view of the valley of the Arkansas and the surrounding country. Encamped on the Arkansas. Shortly after we had encamped we were visited by three Arepahas; they informed us that there were fifty lodges on the opposite side of the river; that the remainder of the nation, with a large number of Cheyennes, were hunting buffalo, about two days' ride from here, between the Platte and the Arkansas.

31st.—Remained encamped. Fifty lodges of the Arepahas came over from the opposite side of the river, and encamped about two or three hundred yards from us. These Indians have long been friendly to the whites. They have a large number of horses, having lately stolen about one hundred and seventy from the Eutaus, with whom they are at war. They subsist upon buffalo meat, and when out of the range live upon dogs, of which they have a great number, and of a large size.

*(Concluded in our next.)*

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#### VISIT TO THE ETTRICK SHEPHERD.

A recent notice from Scotland, it seems, has brought us a report of the decease of James Hogg, the Ettrick Shepherd. As one who personally knew that interesting man, I beg leave to join with his friends and relatives, in sentiments of the most earnest regret and sorrow at their loss; in which I have no doubt they will find correspondent feelings in the breasts of all the inhabitants of this country, who have ever heard of him.

An account of the visit I made him at his residence, near Altrive Lake, the head waters of the Yarrow, a few years since, may not be uninteresting to the readers of the Magazine.

Whilst on a tour through a part of Scotland, it was interesting to me to have pointed out on the travelling map, by persons I occasionally became acquainted with, the particular place or places where men of eminence were born or resided; or, if no longer living, the place where they had lived. Amongst the living, there was no one I was more desirous to see than the Ettrick Shepherd, for, like most of my countrymen, I had at an early age become enamoured with the rustic song of Scotland. Returning from the northward, I determined to take Altrive Lake in my route;



and though unprovided with any thing in the form of an introduction, I felt assured that I could rest with confidence upon the kindness of one, whose goodness of heart and liveliness of imagination had produced so estimable a work as the "Queen's Wake." I had also been repeatedly assured he was plain and unceremonious in his manners, and invariably courteous to strangers. Under the most agreeable impressions from these reports, I crossed, at Selkirk, the bridge beneath which flows the Tweed. The residence of Mr. Hogg was about twelve miles from Selkirk; the road led me along the left bank,

"Where Yarrow runs amang the rocks,  
An' wheels an' boils in mony a linn,"

occasionally spreading out over a pebbly bottom, then rushing through where the banks more closely approach each other; and where the stream is about twenty yards in width. The face of the country presented lofty ranges of hills, the sweeping vallies partially under cultivation, with an occasional glimpse of small patches of woodland, *plantations* as they are there called, skirting the foot of a steep hill, or filling a ravine, between two approximate elevations; otherwise, scarce a shrub or tree to be seen, the country very thinly inhabited, but exhibiting a truly picturesque appearance; the sides of the highest hills clothed with richest verdure to their very summits, and their sloping sides sprinkled with flocks of sheep. Crossing a bridge to the right bank of the stream, the residence of Mr. Hogg was pointed out to me, about a mile and a half distant to the west, considerably elevated above the level on which I stood; the view in that direction is bounded by a high ridge, the eastern side descending gradually to its base, which is terminated by a broad piece of land sufficiently level for cultivation, and which then presented a very large field of barley. At the eastern termination of this piece of ground is situated the house with a contiguous cluster of out-buildings.

My approach to the house, (a moderate sized two story stone building, with a porch in the rear,) was unperceived but by some workmen who were employed putting the roof on a wing recently added to the building; they could not inform me whether Mr. H. was at home, but a rap at the door soon brought a man from within, who opened it, and to whom I repeated the inquiry. A hasty glance from top to toe of the person, showed him to be about five feet two inches in height, of sturdy, athletic form; his coat and pantaloons, which appeared to be new, were of a thin, gray, undressed woollen material, with fine cross-bars of a dark colour; his complexion sandy, hair slightly sprinkled with gray; the features of his face, though perfectly fresh in my recollection, I find it difficult to describe; his countenance, however, bore evident marks of urbanity and kindness; his age I took to be about fifty. From the lapse of time since I first heard the name of the Ettrick Shepherd, my impressions were that he must now be fast declining into the vale of years. What then was my surprise at the answer of this person to my inquiry, "my name is Hogg." "Pray sir, (continued

I, ) are you the Ettrick Shepherd?" He answered, with a smile, "I am sometimes ken'd by that name." It was the bard of Ettrick forest before whom I stood! I gave him my name, that of my country, told my story, and made my apologies in as few words as possible; he invited me in, and I followed him to the parlor, one side nearly of which, was occupied by his library. We seated ourselves on opposite sides of a small table that stood between the two front windows, which were open and looked to the south over a field where the grain was in shocks, (it was in the season of harvest,) and some men with a wagon were employed taking it away. He took down a spying-glass and looked in that direction, I supposing, as the sequel will show I had reason for, that the persons were not in his service, and that he had important motives for observing their actions; the glass was soon laid aside, and the conversation which had already been commenced upon the United States, was resumed. He seemed well acquainted with the geography, history, government, and statistics of North America, and with the characters of many of the distinguished men it had produced; this knowledge of his seemed to me to stand in bold contrast with that of a distinguished British poet, who mentioned his having heard that a copy of his works had been seen at Albany, near the city of Washington. It frequently happened during our conversation, that a point upon the abovementioned subjects could not be settled, or was a matter of dispute between us; in either case a book would be drawn from the shelf, and in a short time, as one tome after another was drawn forth, the small table was piled up with history, geography, biography, statistics, maps, voyages and travels, etc. etc.

The conversation upon America was commenced on his part, perhaps, with a view to comply with that general rule of politeness which dictates to the host to entertain his guest with subjects most familiar to the latter, and best adapted to his capacity; but it was manifest he was desirous of further information. Contrary to the observations of many who have seen and conversed with him, and whose remarks have been published, his discourse seemed to be entirely free from egotism; nor did it in a single instance appear to "overstep the modesty of nature;" on the contrary, it was difficult to confine him to subjects relating to himself and his writings, though approached on my part with great caution, and from remote points, such as opinions upon the characters of various Scottish poets, the difference of their style, and the favorite measure of each.

These discrepancies between the reports of travellers are not so uncommon as to excite any surprise; since, out of any given number of them, scarcely any two can be found who have viewed the same persons and things through the same medium, or under similar circumstances; and how absurd to attempt to form an opinion of one's character and propensities in a few hours' acquaintance.

Whether it was from the pleasure of seeing a person whose poetical writings I had so long and so much admired, or any other

excitement of the moment, I am unable to say, but his words seemed to flow in a sound of poetry; his dialect and pronunciation were decidedly Scotch, though not so broad as that of many well educated persons I met with.

In about an hour from the time I came in, during which several little girls, his daughters, were playing about the room, the repast was spread upon the table in the room where we were sitting, and we were joined by Mrs. Hogg, and a young man I took to be the family teacher. Mrs. H. was a lovely and well-bred lady, of about thirty years of age, tall, with dark hair and eyes; her charms, even had they remained in the valley up to that period, were armed with sufficient force to have brought down the most insensible shepherd from his mountain perch; what then must they have been when young, to have matched the beauty seated in the imagination of the poet? During the repast, the conversation was sustained by her with pleasing animation and cheerfulness. Every thing around, within and without, wore an aspect of comfort and neatness, of ease and competence; such a scene would have afforded ample material for Allan Ramsay to have added a sequel to the "Gentle Shepherd." After the repast, and while Mr. H. stepped out a few minutes to give some directions to the workmen, I had a better opportunity of getting acquainted with the little girls. With a due share of modesty, they were too well bred to be shy, and I soon succeeded in getting them around me. When Mr. H. returned, to the eldest one, (Maggie,) about eight years of age, I said, "What will a' the lads do, when Maggie gaes awa?" This appropriate application of his line, seemed to please him; and I added, that besides persons of accomplishment and refined taste, to be found in our cities, who were charmed with his writings, and who sang his songs, the inmates of many a log cabin, in the western wilds of America, and who had never seen a city, could quote more readily from them than I could, of which I had witnessed numerous demonstrations. "If I ever publish again, (said he,) I think I shall turn my thoughts towards America; a friend of mine, in Philadelphia, has written to me on the subject, and recommends it as more advantageous than to publish only in this country." I could only offer it as my opinion that full as large a number of volumes of his works were printed and read in America as in Great Britain.

Circumstances relating to my subsequent movements, required that I should now make the most of my time, and after, in continuation of my amusement with the little girls, I had taught them some childish games I was acquainted with, suited to their age, and which to them possessed the charm of novelty, I made a motion to depart. I was urged to remain, and willingly would I have staid forever to have enjoyed the pleasures of the conversation, intellectual and poetical, that flowed from the lowland tongue of the Ettrick Shepherd. He proffered his services to accompany me a short distance, in order to place me in the best road; taking his fowling-piece in his hand and calling his dog, we put forward; but when a



few paces from the door, he remarked that there was not sufficient wind to enable the dog to smell the game, he returned, left his gun and rejoined me. We had proceeded about a mile, when he stopped and pointed out the best route for me to follow. I was extremely loth to part with him, which he must have noticed, for he proposed, if I was not in very great haste, that we should sit down awhile; we accordingly did so, upon a tuft of heather, on the bank of the lake, the shore of which was about a quarter of a mile distant. The conversation was continued. I made another effort to draw him into saying something of himself, in order to obtain from his own lips the particulars of his recent misfortune. From all I had as yet been able to observe, he bore it with great philosophy; with all that had passed under my view during that day that was pleasing, my feelings had been oppressed with sorrow for him and his family, and with indignation at the cruel and ungenerous conduct of the Duke of Buccleugh, a man of almost unlimited wealth, to reduce to beggary a tenant who was an honor to his country and to humanity, was indeed too bad; and in the face, too, of all the stigmas that have been attempted to be cast upon the Scotch people who have but just gone before us, for their neglect of Burns; insensible how much that country is indebted to one of her sons, whose genius so far outweighs that of the statesman as to render the peasant contented with his humble lot, and lighten the asperity of his toil; so different from the general character of his countrymen, high and low, rich and poor, whom I found universally to be polite, generous and open-hearted.

There was no way to evade the direct question as to where he was born, to which he replied, pointing to the southward, "a wee bit ower ayont that brae, at the small toon of Ettrick." To my question of how long he had occupied his present farm, he replied, "it is now aboot twenty years;" here, then, for twenty years had he enjoyed the literary leisure, the want of which caused the unfortunate Burns to heave many a bitter sigh; "the Duke o' Buccleugh," he immediately added, "alloos me it free of rint."

Amongst the persons I had met with, who were acquainted with Mr. Hogg, one gentleman informed me that he (Mr. H.) had been very unfortunate of late, that the Duke of Buccleugh had *rouped* him. *Roup* is another word for auction, or public sale; when a farmer is unable to pay his rent, or falls much in arrears, the proprietor seizes upon the crops, whether in the field or the granary, and sells them and the stock in order to obtain his due. This will account for my believing the men who were removing the grain from the field, were employed by the persons who had purchased it. Although somewhat perplexed by his last remark, which clearly proved I had been misinformed, my sympathies were laid at rest, and I left the solution of the problem for some future occasion. The softness of his hand, his dress and general appearance, bore no indication that he followed the plough or "drove the team afield," or that he passed his time otherwise than entirely to his taste. I learned previously to seeing him, that he frequently made

protracted visits to Edinburgh, where he was the king of good fellows amongst the more convivial of the literati, sung a good song, and played extremely well on the violin. I noticed a violin hanging up in his library.

"No man can tether time or tide;" the declining sun admonished me to depart, and the reader will easily presume I had neither horse nor carriage in waiting, and I had to reach Moffat, a distance of fifteen or twenty miles, that evening. At parting with that excellent man, he expressed an earnest wish that any of my countrymen travelling that way would give him a call, when he would insure them a hearty welcome. It was by no means rare for strangers to visit him, notwithstanding his retired situation; only a few days previous, he had been visited by an American. I think Mr. H. said he was an officer of the Navy; he told me his name, but I have forgotten it. Soon after my return to the United States, I noticed the proposals of a bookseller in New York, who, with a spirit truly praiseworthy, offered to get up an edition of Hogg's works by subscription, the profits of which were destined for the benefit of the poet. Without wishing to divert such or any other charitable intention towards his surviving family, I must offer it as my opinion, that to him the measure would have been agreeable in so far only as it would have elicited the kind feelings entertained towards him by the people in this quarter of the world. If he had ever suffered any pecuniary embarrassments, they must have been of moderate import, not more than were likely to arise from the failure of a small farming or book-making speculation, and from which a little more caution or better luck would enable him to extricate himself. With regard to the story of the *roup*, I had subsequently a better version of it from a source entitled to full credit. It was thus: Mr. Hogg became responsible for a farm, on the Duke of B.'s estate, that was rented by an aged relative, who, from his infirmities, proved unequal to the task, and Mr. H., to wind up the concern in a way most convenient to himself, recommended the business to be settled after the *rouping* fashion. His affection to his wife was said to have been always marked by all the ardour and freshness of youth; and the manners of his interesting children bore evidence of his most kind and assiduous care. When will the wound in their hearts be healed, or when can the admirers of his genius *hope to look upon his like again*? Often, as we revert to the towering plant that flourished upon the banks of the Tweed, or to that which threw its shadows afar from the margin of Doon, we shall still have to turn aside and recreate amongst the flowers that adorn the borders of the Yarrow.

P.

## THE PORT FOLIO OF AN OLD SOLDIER.

## No. III.

## AN ADVENTURE OF FORT DUQUESNE.

There was a universal demand for the tale.—“Nay,” said the old gentleman, “it’s a mere anecdote—and a very common-place one; but such as it is, you shall have it.”—*Irving.*

Since my last on the forts, in and near old Pitt, I have reconnoitred, and endeavored to rake and scrape all that I could collect of antiques, connected with the pioneers of the West and the old French wars. But so unsparing has been the hand of time on that which would command the deepest veneration, scarcely a vestige remains. The warriors and veterans of the war-whoop, and the *qui vive* memory, are gone; and but here and there one who can tell about things little known, though relating to persons well known.

Some few days ago, returning from the field of Braddock, I stopped at a cottage, three miles from the junction of the two rivers; it being evening the honest gardener received me, amidst a groupe of cheerful and intelligent girls, who sat around a comfortable fireside. Some difficulty having arisen as to the age of one of the children, the old man exclaimed that “it was as true as that a pot of gold was buried on the island.” This singular advertence drew forth my curiosity, and I requested him to tell what he knew about the pot of gold buried on the island. At this, ‘there was a universal demand for the tale;’ a tale often and repeatedly told in the family. Every one who has passed an evening in the country, listening to ghost tales and mysterious stories about the Indians, “when naught but the cracking of the backlog and speaker are heard,” can form an idea of the intense interest generally manifested on such occasions. The gardener at last commenced his story, which he repeatedly pronounced as “genewyne,” as related to him by his great-grand uncle, an old trooper.

“Perhaps some of you must have heard something about Fort Duquesne; it was an old fortified castle, built by the French in 17—, and garrisoned by soldiers of the same nation, who came from Canada, where their head-quarters were then located, and from whence all orders and pay arrived. It was customary, it appears, to pay the troops at this fort, twice a year, and the funds required were forwarded by a boat, which descended the Allegheny river, escorted by a guard, to prevent the Indians from robbing it. The soldiers were mostly paid in gold, in what they called “louis d’ors.” At the time of the re-surrender of the fort to the British, the intelligence had not been received immediately in Canada, and it being the season to settle off with the troops on



the frontiers, a canoe was despatched, containing an immense sum of gold, with a detachment of Canadian grenadiers, who descended the Allegheny as far down as the island, now called Washington's island, where the great man was wrecked in 17—. Scarcely had the canoe reached the island, when, to their astonishment, the British flag was seen waving upon the fort. Being alarmed at the unexpected scene, and fearing lest the treasure should fall into the hands of the victors, they resorted to the stratagem of burying it in the sand. Accordingly, in the night they dug a hole, and safely deposited the money in an iron pot, and immediately departed up stream, panic struck, at beholding their little Fort Duquesne, taken by the English, and not knowing what had become of their fellow companions in arms, for whom the treasure was destined.

"Many years have passed since this adventure occurred, and no one has ever announced that this treasure was ever come after or found. The belief is, that it is still in the "bank." Many have been the holes dug in search for it, but all in vain. Not a year passes, but some fresh earth indicates that some adventurer has been at work, in the silent shades of the night. You know how successful I have been in digging up, a short time since, two guineas, a golden buckle, and silver buttons, belonging to an officer who fell about this time. If I had faith to believe (assuming an air of importance) that the pot of gold was buried on the island, I could go and lay my hands upon it; but for the want of faith, it will probably ever lie there."

The gardener having thus ended his story, told in twice as many words, as I have written down, I left the cottage, impressed with the singular adventure of the pot of gold.

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#### KOSCIUSZKO AT SOLEURE.]

[WRITTEN IN 1816.]

"Who is that venerable old man," said a stranger to a citizen of Soleure, "seated alone and leaning upon a staff?"

"It is Kosciuszko, the Polish general and patriot, who comes every day, at a certain hour, to promenade in his favorite walk; you may see him always alone, solitary and retired from the busy crowd, meditating upon the past and present condition of his unhappy country."

"Ah! that's General Kosciuszko!"

Who is not familiar with the history of this extraordinary man, who fought and bled in both hemispheres. Born in Lithuania, a place so celebrated for its warriors and braves, he imbibed at an early hour a love for the sacred cause of liberty, and espoused the revolutionary party of America, when but a youth. Scarcely had he left the schools of Paris, where he had gone for the completion of his education, than he embarked for the land of Washington,

where he was unknown and an entire stranger. The great military chieftain received him, and not long after discovered in him a young Pole of extraordinary valor and promising merit. He adopted him in his own family, and in a short time appointed him colonel of engineers and one of his aids. Kosciuszko, after having shared in the honors of a triumphant cause, with other renowned foreigners, and established a name which will be coeval with the independence and glory of America, left the shores of the youthful republic, and arrived once more in Poland, the land of his birth and warmest affection. He bore with him the recollection of having fought at the side of the immortal Washington, who first taught him the lessons of war, and who nurtured in him that devotion to freedom, which he ever after felt, and which led him to seek the independence of his hapless country.

In 1792, when Poland once more endeavored to shake off the yoke, under which she had so long suffered, the intrepid Kosciuszko came forward to the rescue, but after wading through blood he was obliged to retire in dismay, into voluntary exile. Again, in 1794, another attempt was made, and the brave Poles having desired Kosciuszko to lead them, he stepped forward and fought until an overwhelming force compelled the heroes of liberty to forsake the cause as hopeless. Their chivalrous leader was taken prisoner at the battle of Maccionia, carried to St. Petersburg and incarcerated in a dungeon, where he remained until liberated by the Emperor Paul.

Kosciuszko then came to America, and after having passed some time in the peaceful retirement of that country, which he had assisted to make free, he again returned to Europe, and chose for his place of residence Soleure, not many leagues from Paris, and where he will probably end his days.\* Kosciuszko, like Lafayette, keeps up a continual correspondence with the friends of liberty, and no one has a greater regard for his country than he has. Eager to deliver Poland from its present thralldom he is ready, at any moment, to sacrifice his life to serve the cause.

In 1806, the winter in which the French army entered Poland, the following address was transmitted to his countrymen, and this appears to be the last effort he made to achieve the independence of his country. It is written with the warmth of a soul which long desired to see the Polish arms triumphant. The address is eloquent and energetic, and was dated,

“PARIS, November 1, 1806.

TO THE BRAVE POLES.

“Amidst the clamor of arms, which re-echoes from Poland, Kosciuszko is about to join you. In the enterprise of the French—in their triumphs, and by their eagles hovering before them, you will distinguish those legions which display their courage in the four quarters of the globe, and in one campaign have dispersed

\* Kosciuszko died at Soleure in 1817.

the united force of two great empires; and have lately, in one week annihilated the labor of a century, the work of Frederick, and the trophies of his old and celebrated generals.

"Dear countrymen and friends! You, who have proved yourselves to possess a degree of fortitude equal to our misfortunes; you who, banished from your native soil, have remained under a nation friendly to Poland; and you, who, having become strangers in the heart of that country, nevertheless preserved the sense of glory and the recollection of your brethren; arise! the great nation is before you: Napoleon expects and Kosciuszko calls you!

"I soon shall again behold the paternal hearth which my arm defended; those fields which I have bathed with my blood; and, with tears of joy, I shall embrace those unfortunate friends whom I was not permitted to follow to the grave. Beloved and brave countrymen, whom I was compelled to abandon to the yoke of the conquerors, I have only lived to avenge your wrongs, and I now return to restore you to freedom. Sacred remains of my country! I shall hail you with transport, and embrace you with a sacred enthusiasm. I will join you never more to part. Worthy of the great man whose arm is extended towards you; worthy of the Poles who now hear my voice, I shall now endeavor to establish a more splendid and stable basis; or, if the name of my native country amounted to no more, with my fellow citizens, than empty words, in this case I shall know how to avoid my disaster and your disgrace, by burying myself under the noble ruins of our aspiring fortune. But no, the good times of Poland have returned! Destiny has not led Napoleon and his invincibles to the shores of the Vistula without an object. We are under the ægis of the monarch who vanquishes difficulties as it were by a miracle, and the re-animation of Poland is too glorious an object not to have been left by the Eternal Judge for him to achieve.

KOSCIUZKO.

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O'HARA.

When O'Hara, who, nevertheless, was a very common character, was made prisoner at Toulon, and was asked by me, on the part of General Dugomier, what he wished for, he answered, "to be alone, and not to be indebted to pity."—*Bonaparte*.

I never peruse the history of the little affair of Toulon in 1793, (the cradle of the great master spirit of the French revolution), but the names of Yorktown—of Washington—of Bonaparte—and that of the individual placed at the head of this article, are presented to my mind in successive train, bringing to recollection the past interesting history of two of the greatest men of modern times.

O'Hara, who, no doubt, was a brave soldier and an intrepid warrior, appeared doomed to share, in despite of all, the strange reverses of fortune; to act a part in the beginning of that drama,



which finally resulted in placing the Corsican upon the throne of Henry the Fourth; and perform also a character in the last denouement of that piece which announced to the world the success of the cause of American independence. In 1781, O'Hara, then acting under Cornwallis, as the next in command, surrendered his sword to the chief of the American forces. This, however mortifying at the time to his feelings, must have been in the course of succeeding years highly gratifying, when reflecting upon the glorious scene. History, faithful in recording deeds of valor and patriotism, has represented the picture; and whilst there exists a brush devoted to posterity, the interesting groupe of Yorktown—Washington, Lafayette, Gates, and O'Hara, will be viewed upon the canvas by future generations with eager curiosity and delight. To have thus surrendered to the illustrious chieftain of America, will be considered an honor; and a name thus transmitted (as one of the principal actors of the scene) will be looked upon with joy, even by the Britons, without referring to the signal defeat on the part of Cornwallis.

Twelve years had scarcely passed away, when the individual who presented to Washington his sword, was called again (under the adverse hands of fortune) to surrender himself a prisoner at Toulon; and some have asserted that Bonaparte took O'Hara with his own hands. On referring to a number of an old *Moniteur*, we have been induced to translate the following, as a part of an account given of the siege of Toulon.

"In the later end of October, General O'Hara arrived from Gibraltar with a body of troops, he being appointed governor of Toulon and commander-in-chief.

"On the 14th of November, General O'Hara having received instructions from England on the concerns of Toulon, which appointed Admiral Hood, Sir Gilbert Elliott, and himself, commissioners plenipotentiary for regulating affairs there, a deputation of the inhabitants was desired to attend them on the twentieth, where the general addressed the inhabitants in a written speech, at the conclusion of which he read the declaration of his Britannic Majesty on the circumstances of the surrender of that city and port."

"This document in itself presents one of the most extraordinary examples of Machiavelian policy and breach of faith that history can produce; under pretence of a full and general compliance with the conditions under which the place was betrayed into the hands of the English, it was couched in phraseology so vague and equivocal as to leave it in any case discretionary, whether they should or not ever comply with the solemnly pledged faith of the British king by his representative. It stated that "informed of the circumstances under which the town, forts, harbor, and shipping had been delivered up, his Britannic Majesty thought fit to give a further assurance, that when monarchy shall be restored and a treaty of peace concluded, containing stipulations in favor of his majesty and his allies, restitution of all conquests made by France during the war, and a just indemnification for the losses

and expenses of the war, and a proper security for the future, then they should be restored according to the engagements entered into by Admiral Hood."

The same declaration disclaims any support of the constitution of 1789, contrary to what Admiral Hood had proclaimed; and that his Britannic Majesty was not solicitous to prescribe any form of government, though he does not hesitate to declare that the establishment of the monarchy in the person of Louis XVII and the lawful heirs of the crown, appears to be the best, that form of government having prevailed in France from the earliest times.

Such a declaration, containing so gross and palpable a breach of faith, was not calculated to produce confidence or success; the Toulonese openly manifested some jealousy; many deserted and threw themselves upon the generosity of the republicans, and measures of rigor became necessary on the part of the English.

In the beginning of November, General Carteaux was removed from the command and put under arrest for his inactivity, and Dugomier succeeded him in the command of the French before Toulon.

Several slight actions occurred in the course of the month; on the thirteenth the garrison made a sally, drove in the French advanced posts, and took a redoubt; but the French charged them with so much impetuosity, that the enemy were every where beaten and forced to return with precipitation, leaving behind them one thousand prisoners and two hundred killed and wounded, among the latter General O'Hara, the commander-in-chief, who was severely wounded in the arm. It was during this charge that Bonaparte received his first wound.

A small camp of the enemy was also seized upon, with all the tents, baggage, &c. General O'Hara, on being taken, was extremely faint from loss of blood, (*nous le croyons mort*;) the French soldiers treated him with so much tenderness, and brought him surgical assistance so speedily, that he was induced to make them a present of sixty louis d'ors. The money, however, was returned to the general, with an intimation that "they were contented with the pleasure they felt in assisting unfortunate humanity." It is presumed that this scene was the precursor of his remarkable words to Bonaparte, "To be alone, and not to be indebted to pity."

## CROSSING THE LINE.

*From the United Service Journal, Oct. 1835.*

About six bells in the watch of the following morning we were hailed by some one, but as no ship was near us, a little alarm was excited as to whence the sounds proceeded. "Ho! the ship ahoy!" was again heard, but still nothing was seen. The serjeants suspended their drill,—the soldiers who were stowing away their beds upon the booms, looked inquiringly,—whilst the seamen, with countenances of mystery, shook their heads, and were silent. "Ho! the ship ahoy!" again resounded, and it seemed like a voice from the deep that was approaching nearer to us.

"Fo'castle, there!" shouted the officer of the watch, "can you see anything out before there?"

"There's a shoal o' dolphins, sir," answered old Snatchblock, "and I thinks I can see a marmaid or two. And now, sir, I can make out a triton in a sea-shell, drawn by dolphins, and a fellow driving four-in-hand, like a mail-coachman."

"Ho! the ship ahoy!" was once more repeated, and the boatswain promptly answered, "Hilloa," whilst the soldiers and uninitiated became extremely restless. "Heave to and give us a rope to get on board," demanded the voice; "I shall lay under the starboard bow, and make a step of the fore-tack bumpkin. My horses are terribly fatigued; I shall be obliged to borrow a sodger or two to carry me to the next craft. What ship is that?"

"The Honorable Company's ship, the Lady Graves," answered old Snatchblock, "as pretty a piece of timber and rope yarn as ever was put together."

"I know her well," rejoined the voice, "is Captain Burgess in good health? He promised last voyage to bring me a silk dress of sea-weed green for my wife, and I know he has kept his word. Have you got your lists ready?"

"All ready," was the response, "and it's as long as a purser's conscience; plenty o' lobsters"—looking at the soldiers—and then catching sight of myself, Marshall, and some of the cadets, he added, "and a small sprinkling of shrimp sauce."

"Then we sha'n't get through business to-day," replied the Triton, as there could now be no doubt that it was he who hailed. "The barber has gone on board the Commodore to set his razor upon the grindstone. But back your main-yard, and let me come on board."

During this conversation there was a tremendous splashing under the bows, and the boatswain bent down over the ridge-rope to address the "Man o' the sea." The ship was rounded-to so as to check her way,—a seaman or two descended to the bumpkin and dolphin-striker to aid the ascent of Neptune's *avant courier*, and in a few minutes a strange uncouth figure made his appearance, his



lower extremities covered with shining scales, each as big as a half-crown, and tapering down to the size of a sixpence, a small pair of wings on his naked shoulders, loose hair hanging about his face like sea-weed, and pieces of coral slung round his neck. The officer of the watch met him on the fore-castle, and by this time a report of the circumstance having been circulated on the gun-deck, the cadets from the steerage, the mids from the orlop, and all the green-horns crowded forward to get a sight of the Triton. "Hope your honor's well?" said the sea-monster, touching the fore-lock of his sea-weed hair; "I am directed by my master, who is sovereign of the ocean, to inform you that he purposes boarding you about five bells in the forenoon-watch, and requests that all due preparations, suitable to his rank as monarch of these here realms, may be made. And as through his—what do you call it?—his—his—d—n the name that I should forget—"

"I suppose you means his godship," said old Snatchblock, giving him a friendly lift.

"Aye, aye, brother," returned the monster, "I sees you know a thing or two. And so, as I was saying, through the knowledge of his godship he diskivers things arterwards as happened before-hand."

"And small credit to his Majesty for that," exclaimed old Snatchblock. "I'm blessed if I don't think you've been foul of his Highness' liquor-case afore you started from below; for you transmogrify plain English and slue it end-for-end; though mayhap you've been aboard the prize there afore you comed here, and have got hold of a bit o' French, as they twists their lingo till they strain the strands. I suppose you meant to say, that Neptune diskivers things aforehand as is going to happen arterwards?"

"Aye, aye, brother," returned the Triton, "that's just what I mean; and so seeing, as the gemman here says about my master, as he knows every thing, why in course he knew you had some ladies aboard, and so he sends into his garden for some fruit, and I have brought a basket with me to taste 'em. I have got 'em down in the carriage, here." He walked forward, descended into the head, bent over the rails, and returned directly with a neat white willow-basket, ornamented with sea-shells, containing some delicious grapes, a fine pine-apple, and other fruits, which he put into the officer's hands. He then turned to the boatswain, "Is your list ready, brother? I have several other ships to visit; but avast, I haven't half executed my commission yet," and he thrust his hand among the drapery that was bound round his loins, and pulled out a couple of dolls, regularly ship-rigged, in blue jacket and trousers, with picked white oakum for hair, and presenting them to the officer, said, "they were a present from Neptune's children for the babies." He then returned to his shell—as the boatswain declared to Marshall. The splashing and noise under the bows was resumed, the ship was kept on her course, and the hammocks piped up.

Exactly at four bells, a spare topsail was stretched across the ship from the two aftmost of the fore-shrouds, and about one-third

up the rigging, so as to screen the fore-castle from observation. The booms, the gangways, the hammock-nettings on the quarter-deck, and the break of the poop, were crowded with eager and anxious spectators, desirous of witnessing the ceremony; and those who had never crossed the line before gave a look of alarm every now and then to an enormous tub, that was placed by the starboard-gangway, filled with water, as ominous of something that was to follow, which they had not much relish for, whilst the whip being rigged with its portentous appendages, and the ranging of fire-buckets, etc., added to the apprehension that something terrible was about to happen. The last stroke of five bells was yet vibrating on the ear, when a distant rumbling, which was succeeded by a sonorous hail, gave notice of the royal visiter's approach. The hail was promptly answered by the Captain himself, who with Lady Russell leaning on the arm of Major Campbell, and Captain Lys, with the lovely twins, took their stations on the quarter-deck. There, too, stood the Rev. Mr. C——, the clergyman, with his pale, mild face, but tall, majestic figure, whilst other officers gathered round.

In a few minutes there was a fearful dashing of the waters, like a shoal of bull-whales in play, and the spray danced high above the screen, which was soon afterwards withdrawn, and the grand procession was brought into view. First came four fiddlers, most fantastically arrayed about the body and thighs, for their legs and arms were bare, except that they were curiously painted with representations of fishes, foul-anchors, union jacks, &c., and they scraped away as if it was a case of life and death. Then came the *avant courier*, who had first boarded us, with a gilt-headed staff. Next followed two special sea-constables, with shining tomahawks, and they marshalled the way for the barber and his assistant; the former carrying a razor, the blade about two feet and a half long, red with the blood of the unfortunate victims he had already shaved that morning; and the latter, having in one hand a tar-bucket containing lather composed of sundry greasy and *savoury* ingredients, and in the other an immense brush to operate with. Two more constables preceded the redoubtable and never-to-be-forgotten Davy Jones, sitting astride the shoulders of a stout subordinate, and both as black as the ace of spades. Two small horns appeared on the forehead of each, like outriggers, and a most comprehensive scope of tail flowed down behind. Davy carried a fork, resembling the cook's tormentors; his subordinate had quite enough to do to carry his principal. Close behind these came a herald with a speaking-trumpet; and then appeared eight tritons, two and two, dragging a handsome car, in which sat old Neptune and Amphitrite, side by side. The naval deity had long, shining, glossy, white hair, hanging from his head over his shoulders and down his back, and a venerable beard to match: a neat crown, ornamented with mother of pearl and shells of various kinds, surmounted his brows; his dress glistened with spangles, and his all-powerful trident was grasped in his right hand: whilst Amphitrite

held a shining sceptre that glistened in the sun, quite dazzling to behold, though Marshall declared, in his ignorance, it was nothing more than the cook's ladle. The goddess was arrayed in all the colours of the rainbow, and her cap looked as if it had been put on hind part before; indeed, to the scandal of the sex, it was strongly believed that she had been indulging too freely with the bottle; and the state of her yellow-red nose, with sundry black pimples upon it, looking something like a sun-flower, confirmed the suspicion of her tippling propensities. On her knee sat an infantile merman, the tail of the fish so conspicuous, that all doubts as to the identity of that anomalous creature were at an end; and it was fully proved that the fish part was like that of a shark. Behind these came a rude assemblage of laughing Tritons, and other sea-monsters, sporting in all their trickery and wild attitudes.

The procession gradually proceeded aft, the fiddlers working away at "Rule Britannia," till the car drew up before Captain Burgess, who immediately uncovered his head, and his example was followed by all the rest. "You're right heartily welcome, sir, once more," exclaimed Neptune, addressing the Captain. "I am happy to see you, my Lady, and them precious cherubs that remind me so much of my own little ones, barring as them there haven't got no fishes' tails," and he slued his own youngster up to show the difference. "Gentlemen all, you're welcome."

Then turning to Amphitrite, he politely said, "Speak to 'em, missus, and ax the gentlefolks how they are."

Amphitrite obeyed her sovereign lord and master, giving her muslin a desperate tug over her eyes, whilst Davy Jones and his carrier wriggled their tails with delight.

"I am rejoiced to have the felicity of visiting your Majesty again," said Captain Burgess, "and am gratified at seeing you in such good health, as well as your excellent spouse. Allow me the honor of introducing Lady Russell to her notice, who, I am sure, must be enamored with her beauty and feminine qualities. Here's Major Campbell, but you've seen the Major before. Captain Lys will feel honored by a kiss of her fair hand."

The Captain turned away amidst the general laugh at his expense, which was increased by the Goddess uttering, in elegant phraseology, "He arn't up to gumption." The infants chuckled, and crowded, and danced their sea-dolls; and Neptune requesting to have a kiss of each, they were handed to him. He looked upon the smiling innocents and his face beamed with generous and kind emotions as he kissed the babes and blessed them. A bottle of wine was brought out by the steward, but both Neptune and Amphitrite preferred rum: glasses were filled, and the toast, "Health and happiness, and a prosperous voyage" went round. But by some means Davy Jones got close to the Parson, and begged hard to hob-and-nob with him; but this the reverend gentleman *respectfully* declined.

The levee being at an end, the procession moved round to the starboard gangway, where the car stopped before the large tub, and



the sea-god sent a polite message to the Captain, requesting that the babies might be brought out. The nurses conveyed them to the Monarch of the Ocean, and each of them held in his tiny hand a golden guinea, which was presented as a peace-offering, and the little creatures seemed delighted with the revelry and noise. A gallon of rum from Captain Lys and several other passengers, secured them from molestation; but Beaumegardte, with that fool-hardiness which nothing could cure, and unwarned by example, would neither propitiate by gift, nor keep away from the deck, boasting that he had pistols in his pocket, and would not submit to be shaved. He was suffered to remain for some time, but Pascoe, myself, the junior mates, and some others, got the fire-engine in the square of the main-hatchway, brought the pipe to the combings just before the mainmast, and as he had already got a little drenching from casualties in throwing water upon the unfortunates, so we completely drenched him, and rendered his pistols perfectly useless. It is true he pulled one out and snapped it, but if loaded, the powder was too damp to ignite. He was promptly seized behind, a handkerchief was bound over his eyes, and a stout fellow grasping him by each arm, he was hurried away to the tub, where he underwent the infliction of the razor,—enjoyed a rather protracted ablution,—and without removing the bandage, was conducted back to the spot from whence he was taken. Swearing vengeance against his tormentors, he struck out right and left, but finding nothing solid on which to vent his rage, he tore off the handkerchief, and found himself standing alone, without a soul near him on whom he could especially charge the offence. Crest-fallen, he slunk away to his cabin, and did not make his appearance again that day.

The ceremony proceeded, and it was not till two bells in the afternoon watch that it closed, when all hands were pretty well tired of the sport. Discipline was relaxed for this occasion,—a plentiful supply of grog cheered each heart,—and the evening closed amongst both officers and men, in harmony.

**REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY,**  
*Accompanying the President's Message, at the opening of the first  
 session of the twenty-fourth Congress.*

NAVY DEPARTMENT, }  
 5th December, 1835. }

*To the President of the United States :*

SIR : In presenting to your consideration the condition of our Navy for the past year, it affords me great satisfaction to state, that all the available means for its improvement have been successfully applied, and that its operations in protecting our commerce, although inadequate to the exigencies of that great and growing interest, have been highly honorable to the officers serving upon our naval stations, at home and abroad.

Since my report of the 29th of November, 1834, the ship of the line North Carolina has been thoroughly repaired in her hull, has lately been taken out of dock, and may be fitted for sea in eighty days.

The repairs of the ship of the line Independence, now in dock at Boston, have been commenced, and are progressing with great despatch. The frigates Constitution and Constellation have been equipped and sent to sea. The frigate United States has been prepared, and is ready for the reception of a crew. The hull of the frigate Columbia, at Washington, has been so nearly completed under the law for the gradual improvement of the navy, that she may be launched in the course of this month.

The sloops of war Peacock and Vandalia have been equipped and sent to sea. The sloop of war Warren is taking in her crew, and will sail in a few days. The sloops of war Concord and Boston have been prepared, and are ready for the reception of their crews, and the Lexington will be equally prepared in a few weeks.

The repairs of the sloops of war Falmouth and Natchez, and of the schooner Grampus, have been recently commenced, and it is believed that in a few weeks, they may be ready for the reception of their crews.

The building of a store ship, authorized by a law of the 30th of June, 1834, has been commenced at Philadelphia ; and a steam vessel has been commenced at New York, but will not be ready for service until some time in the summer of 1836.

The ships of the line Alabama, Vermont, Virginia, Pennsylvania, and New York, and the frigates Santee, Cumberland, Sabine, Savannah, Raritan, and St. Lawrence, are on the stocks, well protected from the weather, and as nearly completed as it is proper they should be, until it is determined to launch them.

For a more detailed statement of the condition of those vessels, as well as that of the ships of line Franklin, Columbus, and Ohio, and their means of repair, I beg leave to refer to a report of the Commissioners of the Navy Board herewith submitted, marked K. And for the amount of timber, iron, and other materials procured for the gradual improvement of the navy, I refer to their report marked L.

The ship of the line Delaware, the frigate Potomac, the sloop John Adams and the schooner Shark, have been employed in the Mediterranean during the last year. The frigate Constitution sailed for that station on the 19th of August last, from New York. The frigate United States returned from the Mediterranean on the 10th of December last. The Delaware is ordered to the United States, and is daily expected.

On the West India station the sloops of war Vandalia, St. Louis and Falmouth, and the schooners Grampus and Experiment, have been employed. The Vandalia, after undergoing considerable repairs, sailed from Norfolk on the 14th of January last, to resume her station in the West Indies. The Falmouth returned from that station on the 1st of August last, and is now at Norfolk. The schooner Experiment also returned from that station in April last, and has been employ-

ed on the survey of the coast. The *Grampus* returned to Norfolk on the 23d of September last, is undergoing repairs, and will soon resume her station in the West India squadron. The frigate *Constellation* sailed for the West Indies on the 8th of October last, from Norfolk.

The sloops of War *Natchez*, *Erie* and *Ontario*, and the schooner *Enterprise*, composed the squadron on the Brazilian station. The *Natchez* has lately returned to the United States, having arrived at New York on the 3d of October. The schooner *Enterprise* has been detached from that station, and ordered on a cruise to the East Indies. She sailed in company with the sloop *Peacock*, from Rio, on the 12th of July last—the *Peacock* having sailed from New York for that station on the 23d of April. In June last, the *Ontario* was ordered to the coast of Africa, with instructions to visit the Island of St. Thomas, Bassa Cove, Cape Palmas, and Mesurado.

The vessels which have been employed in the Pacific, are, the frigate *Brandywine*, and sloops *Fairfield* and *Vincennes*, and the schooners *Dolphin* and *Boxer*. The *Vincennes* has been ordered home by the way of the East Indies, and the *Fairfield* has lately arrived at Norfolk.

The events of the last year furnish much additional evidence that our naval force in commission, is not adequate to the protection of our rapidly increasing commerce. The frequent insurrections and revolutions in the Governments of South America and of Mexico, endanger our merchant vessels upon the Atlantic as well as Pacific ocean, and in the Gulf of Mexico, and even upon our own coast. Influenced by a knowledge of these circumstances, and in accordance with your suggestions, I have asked and obtained from the Board of Navy Commissioners, an estimate of the increased annual expense of adding two frigates, three sloops of war, and four steam vessels, to our force now in commission, to be employed in our foreign stations, as well as upon our own coast. By their report, it appears that such an addition to our vessels in commission, would require annually an appropriation of four hundred and seventy-eight thousand dollars; but as not more than one steam vessel can be finished in the next year, the appropriation wanted for 1836 for this purpose, need not exceed four hundred and thirty-four thousand dollars. This sum is small, compared with the benefits that may be fairly calculated to result from its expenditure, in affording protection to our commerce, independently of the advantage to the efficiency and discipline of our navy, by calling into active service a large number of officers now unemployed. A large portion of the entire expenditure for the additional force proposed, must be incurred, even if it should not be called into service. The vessels necessary for such increase of force, (except the steam vessels,) will, if not so employed, remain at our wharves, affording no benefit to the country, and suffering more from decay than they would do if at sea; and a large portion of the officers necessary for their command, although earnestly asking for service, will remain on shore, receiving pay, but performing no duty; adding nothing to their professional skill, but losing their habits of discipline, which can only be preserved by constant exercise. Should the proposed increase of force be sanctioned by Congress, we shall have in commission, in the year 1836, one ship of the line, six frigates, fourteen sloops of war, five schooners, and one steam vessel; with an addition of three steam vessels in succeeding years, as soon as the same can be prepared; the estimated expense of which appears by the report of the Commissioners, marked D, 1.

Appropriations for the gradual improvement of our navy yards, are next in importance to like appropriations for the gradual improvement of our navy. The necessity of more ample means for protecting our shipping, as well as the immense amount of public property in the different yards, must be apparent to every one who is acquainted with the subject; and the expediency of increasing the facilities for constructing and repairing our ships, is not less apparent. Moderate appropriations, in addition to those that are usual, for three or four years, would accomplish these important objects. In accordance with this view of the subject, I submit a letter of the Board of Navy Commissioners, marked No. 2, together with an estimate marked E, 1, of the probable cost of the proposed improvements, which amounts to three millions five hundred thousand dollars, including that of the dry dock at New York, amounting to nine hundred thousand dollars.



A National Foundry for the purpose of casting cannon, shot, and shells, as well for the army as the navy, was a subject of discussion before the two houses of Congress at their late session, but was postponed in consequence of the shortness of the session, and the pressure of more urgent business. No doubt can be entertained of the importance of such an establishment, when we consider the great improvements made in the fabrication of small arms at the different armories of the United States. In our future wars, especially on the ocean, we must rely much upon the excellence of our cannon. The bursting of a single gun may cause, as it often has done, the loss of a battle. The disasters from this cause, that occurred during the revolutionary as well as the late war, admonish us to guard against like disasters in future; which, it is believed, may be avoided by the means proposed.

It is only by a long series of experiments, and those attended with great expense, that we can hope to discover the best material for making cannon which our country affords, and the art of fabricating them with the most perfect accuracy and efficiency. Believing that such discoveries and improvements are attainable, and that they would be highly important in the army, and still more so in the navy, I must be permitted to express a hope that the subject will be revived at the approaching session of Congress, and that the plan of a national foundry will be adopted.

The importance of rearing a body of seamen, by enlisting into the service of our navy boys over the age of thirteen and under the age of eighteen, until they should arrive at the age of twenty-one years, has already attracted the attention of Congress. At the last session a bill for this purpose was introduced into the Senate. Every year the importance of this measure becomes more apparent. Able seamen are much wanted, while there are boys enough in our cities, leading lives of idleness and vice for want of employment, who, if thus enlisted, under judicious regulations, would in a few years afford us a sufficient corps of able seamen to man our navy, and in the mean time render services to their country worth their pay.

The compensation to be given by the late pay bill to Professors of Mathematics, is such as to command the services of those who are every way competent to perform the duties of this station. A regulation is adopted to appoint none to this station who shall not receive a certificate of competency, after submitting to a rigid examination by scientific gentlemen, who shall be appointed for that purpose. This will be of great advantage to the young officers of the navy; and if a large portion of them should be called into active service by employing an additional naval force for the protection of our commerce, they will be enabled to perfect themselves in seamanship, the most important part of their education, and which can be acquired only at sea. But to make them accomplished officers, something more is required than can probably be derived from those sources: a knowledge of military tactics, of engineering, and drawing, is deemed indispensable in the education of an officer of the Army, and which ought to be deemed equally so in the education of a naval officer. So much of chemistry, mineralogy, geology, and natural history, as is taught at the Military Academy, although not absolutely essential to the military or naval officer, yet is decidedly more important to the latter than to the former. If provision should be made for the admission of a class of one hundred midshipmen at a time at the Academy at West point, to pursue such studies as should be prescribed by the Navy Department, and to be succeeded at the end of one or two years by another class, all in their turn might receive the advantage of this course of studies, highly necessary to their education as accomplished officers of the navy, and at a small expense, as the midshipmen, while at the Academy, would receive no more pay than if attending the schools at the navy yards, or if waiting orders.

A National Observatory, although not immediately necessary to the defence of our country, is remotely so; and considered with reference to the bearing it would have upon our navy, our commerce, and scientific pursuits, it assumes an importance worthy of the consideration of Congress. It is hardly to be doubted that we shall, at some future period, make such an establishment; and I will venture to express an opinion that no time can be more propitious, for such an undertaking than the present. It would not be attended with any great ex-

pense. It is necessary, now to employ an officer of science to keep our maps and charts, to regulate our chronometers, and to preserve all mathematical and philosophical instruments required for the naval service; and buildings are necessary for these purposes. These duties would properly devolve upon the superintendent of an observatory; and the buildings necessary to such an establishment would be amply sufficient for the preservation of our maps, charts, and instruments.

Under the act concerning Naval Pensions and the Navy Pension Fund, eighteen invalid pensions have been granted since my last report, making the number on the roll three hundred and five, and the annual amount required to pay them \$24,944; and forty-one widows' pensions have been granted, making the number on the roll one hundred and fifty, and the annual amount necessary to pay them \$32,594. The annual charge, therefore, according to the present roll, will amount to \$57,538. It is not probable that all on the list will claim; but as the death of a pensioner is not officially known, except when the account is settled by his or her representative, the number is made out from the rolls in this Department. Some have not claimed for two, three, four, and five years; but as they are not known to be dead, their names are still continued on the rolls. The receipts and expenditures on account of the fund, to the 30th September last, will be seen in the statement marked M, and the amount and description of stocks belonging to the fund, in the statement marked M, 1.

Under the act of the 19th of June, 1834, respecting pensions chargeable to the Privateer Pension Fund, since my last report six widows have received five years' pension each, amounting to \$2,400; more than five years having elapsed since the date to which they were last paid. Two invalid pensions have also been granted; making the number on the roll thirty-six, and the annual amount required to pay them \$3,184. The account of stock, and of receipts and expenditures, will be seen in statement N.

The condition of the Navy Hospital Fund, including receipts and expenditures, will appear in statement O. The annual receipts are much greater than the disbursements; and as they will probably continue to be greater for several years, I respectfully repeat the suggestion in my last report, that authority be given to vest the surplus in some well-secured stock, for the benefit of the fund.

Under the act of the 30th of June, 1834, the widows of all officers, seamen, and marines, who have died in the naval service since the first day of January, 1824, or who may die in said service, by reason of disease contracted, or of casualties by drowning or otherwise, or of injuries received while in the line of duty, are entitled to pensions equal to half the amount of the pay to which their husbands respectively were entitled at the time of their deaths. The act of the 3d of March last, "to regulate the pay of the Navy of the United States," and which increased the pay of many officers, is silent as to pensions. A difficulty arises in ascertaining the proper amount of pension to be allowed to widows of naval officers whose pay has been increased by this act. The pay of a Captain, in command of a squadron, was increased to four thousand dollars a year; when on other duty, to three thousand five hundred dollars; and when off duty, to two thousand five hundred dollars. A corresponding increase of pay is made to other officers. In the case of a Captain dying when in command of a squadron on a foreign station, a question arises, whether his widow should receive a pension to the amount of six hundred dollars a year, to which she would have been entitled if this act had not passed, or whether she shall receive the half of the amount of pay to which her husband was entitled at the time of his death as a Captain commanding a squadron, as a Captain on other duty, or as a Captain off duty. After much deliberation, it has been decided to allow a pension in such case, of \$1,135 62 a year, being the half pay of a captain commanding a squadron, reduced by the amount \$1,728 75, equal to his allowance before this act. The salary of \$4,000 a year to a captain in command of a squadron, is in lieu of former pay and emoluments. Those emoluments, excepting one ration a day, amounted to \$1,728 75; which sum, deducted from \$4,000, leaves \$2,271 25, the half of which, \$1,135 62, is considered as the proper amount of the widow's annual pension. Questions on pensions, more complicated than this, may arise under this act, especially

in the case of the deaths of surgeons and assistant surgeons, whose grades of pay are more numerous than those of captains.

The necessity of an explanatory act to obviate these difficulties is respectfully suggested.

By the act of Congress of the 10th of July, 1832, it is required that any surplus money belonging to the navy pension fund, shall be vested in the stock of the Bank of the United States. The amount so vested, is six hundred and nineteen thousand dollars, and this Department has no authority to make a different investment of money without the further action of Congress.

Previously to the passing of the act of the 30th of June, 1834, for the better organization of the United States marine corps, double rations had been allowed to the commandant of that corps, and to the officers of the same, commanding at the navy yards at Portsmouth, Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Washington, Norfolk, and Pensacola; and to the senior marine officers in the squadrons in the Mediterranean, the West Indies, the Brazilian coast, and the Pacific ocean; all receiving the sanction of Congress by their appropriations. By this act the officers of the marine corps are to receive the same pay, emoluments, and allowances, as are given to officers of similar grades in the infantry of the army. The act of the 16th of March, 1802, fixing the military peace establishment of the United States, authorizes allowances to the commanding officers of each separate post, of such additional number of rations as the President of the United States shall, from time to time, direct.

These provisions of this last act, were continued by an act of the 3d of March, 1815, fixing the military peace establishment.

The paymaster of the marine corps made payments for double rations to officers heretofore receiving the same, from the 1st of July to the 30th of September, 1834. But the accounting officers of the Treasury did not think proper to allow the same, inasmuch as the commands of these officers had never been designated as separate stations, agreeably to the rule prescribed for the army. This is a case of difficulty which, it is respectfully suggested, requires the interposition of Congress.

Being still of the opinion expressed in my last report, that the public interest would be promoted by having the marine barracks placed without the navy yards to which they are attached, as early as may be practicable, estimates are submitted for purchasing sites and erecting barracks at places where they are deemed most necessary.

In performance of my duty under the act of the 3d of March last, authorizing the construction of a dry dock for the naval service, in the harbor of New York, or its adjacent waters, I proceeded in May last to the city of New York, where I was met by an able engineer, Loammi Baldwin, Esq. whom I had previously engaged to make the soundings and other examinations necessary to a proper selection of a suitable site. After a long and laborious examination, Mr. Baldwin made his report, which has been submitted to your consideration; by which it appears that the proposed dry dock may be advantageously constructed in the navy yard at Brooklyn. A selection of this place, for this purpose, is recommended by the consideration that the land occupied as the navy yard belongs to the United States; and that the public buildings upon it, which are of great value, cannot be abandoned without serious loss.

One difficulty presented itself, which created some delay in making this selection. A building for the purpose of distilling turpentine had been erected so near to the navy yard, as greatly to endanger the public property. Other buildings for similar purposes, or for purposes equally dangerous, might be erected near the yard, if not prevented by some act of legislation. I am happy to state that the Common Council of Brooklyn, when the case was laid before them, promptly passed an ordinance, which it is believed will effectually secure the property in the navy yard from the danger of this nuisance, and all similar ones; and it cannot be doubted that the Common Council of Brooklyn will grant all reasonable protection and accommodation to this navy yard; and that the State of New York will protect and promote the interests of the same by any legislative acts that may be found to be necessary and proper. I shall therefore proceed, under your direction, with as much despatch as present and



future appropriations will permit, to cause the dry dock thus authorized by law to be constructed in the navy yard at Brooklyn.

Under the act of the 30th of June, 1834, "authorizing the Secretary of the Navy to make experiments for the safety of the steam engine," and appropriating five thousand dollars for that purpose, many proposed improvements have been submitted for the purpose of being tested by experiments. Some of these were so easily tested by those having steam engines in operation, that the aid of Government was not needed; others were attended with greater difficulty, and could not be tested without the expense of constructing boilers and other machinery for the purpose. These proposed improvements have not been such, as in my opinion, to warrant a large expenditure of money; and no experiments have been made upon them. Such experiments, however, would have been made, if they could have been so made, without the expense of constructing engines.

The act seemed particularly to require that the steam engine devised by Benjamin Phillips, of Philadelphia, should be examined and tested; and that Mr. Phillips should be employed in making the experiments. Mr. Phillips was therefore employed to construct a model engine, with boilers and other machinery which he deemed necessary for the purpose of testing his improvements, which he brought to this District, where he remained several weeks making his experiments before many members of the two Houses of Congress, before the officers of the different Departments, and others.

I attended very carefully to these experiments; but have not been able to perceive in them any improvements, increasing the safety of the steam engine.

The money paid for Mr. Phillips' machinery, preparations, and experiments, amounts to five hundred and nineteen dollars and seventy-five cents; the residue of the appropriation remains unexpended.

The fourth report of Mr. Hassler, superintendent of the coast survey, upon the operations performed in that work between the months of May and December, 1835, together with his detailed estimate of the appropriations required for the same for the next year, are herewith submitted, marked T.

Much work appears to have been done on the secondary triangulations, on the topographical operations, and by the sounding parties. That more has not been done in the primary triangulations, is explained in the report.

Of the appropriations heretofore made for this survey, there remained on the first day of this month, an unexpended balance of eight thousand eight hundred and twenty-three dollars.

The duties of the sounding parties are performed by the officers and seamen of the navy; and the chief part of the expense is charged to the navy appropriations. As, however, there are some expenses which cannot be charged to those appropriations, they must necessarily be charged to the appropriations for the coast survey. In September, 1834, the schooner *Jersey*, not wanted for any purposes of the navy, was purchased for the sounding party under the command of Lieutenant Gedney. The price of this vessel, \$3,350, therefore, could not be charged to the naval appropriations; it was properly charged to the appropriation for the coast survey. For the same reason, the boats, equipments, and other expenses for the schooner, amounting to \$1,888 60, were charged to the same appropriation, as was also the charge for extra pay to the officers, amounting to \$650; in all, for the year 1834, to \$5,888 60.

During the present season, the expense of this schooner, chargeable to the coast survey, has amounted to \$1,399, making the whole expense of this schooner, for the years 1834 and 1835, chargeable to the coast survey, amount to \$7,287 60.

It is not probable that the expense of this schooner, chargeable to the coast survey appropriation, will, for the next year, exceed \$1,500.

The schooner *Experiment*, employed by the sounding party under Lieutenant Blake, belongs to the navy. The coast survey appropriation has therefore been charged only for equipments which were not necessary for the purposes of the navy. These, with other expenses attending the operations of the sounding party on board this schooner, from the first of July last, when she was sent upon the survey, to the 30th of September last, amounted to \$2,517 73.

As most of the equipments of these schooners will last for several years, with

but little expense for repairs and supply of articles which may be lost by accident, it is believed that the expense of both schooners and the sounding parties on board of them for the next year, chargeable to the coast survey, will not exceed \$4,000.

It will be seen that this differs widely from the statement of Mr. Hassler, which may be explained by the circumstance that he did not derive his information from the books of the Treasury department.

By a statement hereunto annexed, marked P, it appears that of the appropriations heretofore made for the suppression of the slave trade, there remains in the treasury a balance of thirteen thousand four hundred and eighty-nine dollars and fifty-five cents.

In my last report I took the liberty of stating that some of the clerks in my department did not receive salaries proportioned to their services, or adequate to the decent support of themselves and families; and I respectfully solicited that the salaries, particularly of the chief clerk of the navy board, the warrant clerk, and the clerk keeping the register of correspondence of this Department, whose duties are arduous, requiring both talent and experience, should be increased, so that the first might receive \$1,700 per annum, and the others \$1,400 each. I repeat the solicitation, from a thorough conviction, that their faithful services fully merit this increase of compensation.

The superintendent of the southwest Executive building receives but \$250 per annum for his services, which it is believed is a compensation too small to command the services of one competent to perform the duties of the station.

The sergeants acting as clerks to the commandant and staff officers of the marine corps, are paid at the rate of less than seven hundred dollars a year for all their services, which it is respectfully suggested is not an adequate compensation.

The necessary references to papers and documents connected with this report, will be found in a schedule hereunto annexed:

All of which is respectfully submitted:

MAHLON DICKERSON.

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### TRADITION OF THE LOVER'S LEAP.

#### ISLAND OF MICHILIMACKINAC.

A feud there was between two chiefs of Huron's lofty isle;  
Their hatchets now were red with blood, then buried were awhile.  
For wary Indians wreak their ire in ambush'd guise alone;  
They would not, when they overthrow, themselves be overthrown.  
The dark intent may slumb'ring lie till generations past,  
Or stratagem or fortune brings the vengeful hour at last.  
Thus liv'd these chiefs, till led by love, or lur'd by chase or war,  
One of them on the lake above, his wigwam bore afar.  
Dissever'd thus, their hatred slept, and sons and daughters grew;  
But every child the parent's hate, the debt of vengeance knew.  
The island chief one daughter had, for forest charms renown'd;  
Bright was her eye, and light her form, and deer-like was her bound  
One evening, as the deep-red sun was dipping in the wave,  
Ard lofty isle, with rock and tree, a lengthen'd shadow gave,

In musing humor, where that wave slept on the pebbly brim,  
The maiden stood in solitude, to watch the scene grow dim.  
While thus she mus'd, a light canoe shot round a point at hand,  
And in a moment more ran up its bow upon the strand;  
A youthful warrior, leaping out, would fain entreat her ear,  
But ere his eager words could rise, she far had fled with fear.  
But not without a glance fled she, a glance that saw the face,  
The plumed crown, the manly form, the warrior's lofty grace.  
With cautious step, while darkling eve around the island fell,  
The stranger trac'd his groping way up precipice and dell.  
For huntsman skill can trace the flight of frighten'd deer or maid;  
The wigwam where the maiden slept was found amid the shade.  
Full well the forest art to woo the stranger youth possess'd;  
He lit his torch—the maiden's sigh his ardent wishes blest.  
He whisper'd how his wigwam stood high on the sire of lakes,  
Where the swell'd flood, through mountain's vent, down its proud pathway  
breaks;  
But whisper'd naught of errand dark that led him on his way;  
Of vengeful debt a dying sire had left his son to pay.  
His father's foe was hunting far; the errand turn'd to love;  
He bade the island maid farewell, and sought the lake above.  
The moon had often wax'd and wan'd, and seasons chang'd their hue,  
When island chief, with wife and child, launch'd forth his light canoe.  
Northward it mov'd until it skimm'd the lake's broad wave above;  
The sire recalling ancient feuds, the daughter tales of love.  
The father knew that such dark feuds might there be couch'd in guile;  
The daughter knew that he was there who woo'd her in the isle.  
His errand done, the chief turn'd back, but cautious drew ashore,  
Where every bark makes wary pause above the torrent's roar.  
Rightly to make this dread descent, he fits his fragile bark,  
For well he knew what fearful rocks the sloping channel mark.  
He sees the stream, all smooth thus far, now rushing down its path,  
Till its broad sheet, among those rocks, is white with foaming wrath.  
Not unprepared must be the craft that would these perils dare,  
For veteran skill can scarce avoid the wreck that threatens there.  
Befitted all, the island chief was launching out once more,  
When he beheld a threat'ning bark shoot round the curving shore.  
He stood a moment just to scan the force of those who came,  
When through the air an arrow flew, haply with erring aim.  
'Twas not for one 'gainst three to wage the all unequal fight;  
He saw his shrinking wife and child, and launch'd his bark in flight;  
But ere his paddle's hasty stroke its wand'ring course could guide,  
Another arrow truer came and quiver'd in his side.  
His paddle dropp'd, when the fierce stream seized on its easy prey,  
But not till those who follow'd, rush'd madly down the way.  
The youthful warrior, in pursuit, intently watch'd his prize,  
And saw its blind and headlong course with half triumphant eyes;  
Till, struck with horror, he beheld his island maiden there;  
Her glance met his—a deathlike glance of anguish and despair.



But naught could stay the dreadful race. Sinking beneath the shock,  
The maiden's bark sheer'd madly wild and struck upon a rock ;  
It hung a moment quiv'ring there, then dropp'd beneath the wave,  
And cast the hapless islanders within a watery grave.  
The buoyant bark soon rose to view, and onwards danc'd again ;  
Its swift pursuers fain would pause, but striv'd to pause in vain :  
Downwards both rush'd, like arrows sped, pursuers and pursued ;  
While the young chief the fatal wreck with grief and horror view'd.  
Where the mad torrent, check'd below, again in smoothness slept,  
He paus'd, and in the turbid stream a painful watching kept ;  
He lifted up an earnest prayer while gazing on the wave ;  
But the dark waters, rolling on, no sign of rescue gave.  
At length, to anguish'd frenzy wrought, he plung'd in wild despair  
Beneath that wave, as if to seek his island maiden there.  
The parted surface clos'd again and hurried on its way,  
But soon, as in relenting mood, threw up a double prey.  
The young chief rose, and in his arm the island maiden bore ;  
His bark receiv'd them, and regain'd with eager strokes the shore.  
The island maid, unconscious how, her island home regain'd,  
But the deep thought of horrors past in madd'ning force remain'd.  
Shrinking before her woful glance, the young chief fled awhile,  
But his light bark, as bound by spell, still linger'd round the isle.  
High on the isle's steep bank, a rock shoots upward from the ledge,  
Which beetles out some hundred feet above the water's edge.  
As 'neath this rock the bark mov'd on, the young chief's lifted eye,  
Appall'd, beheld the island maid stand there 'twixt earth and sky.  
'Twas but a moment there she stood, as if the height to mark,  
That seem'd to lift her up so high above her lover's bark ;  
When, with a leap, as if to seek that bark upon the wave,  
She gave a fearful plunge, and sunk within a wat'ry grave.

## REMINISCENCES OF AN OLD COMPANY OFFICER.

## THE ADJUTANT.

Jacobs was our adjutant; and I defy any regiment of our army or any other army to produce a better. His duties were the source of his greatest pleasure, and he constantly exerted himself to discharge them in a soldier-like style. Our worthy colonel fully appreciated the excellence of Jacobs as the chief of his staff, in which situation he continued him near eighteen years. Every contingency of detail was at his tongue's end; and he specially prided himself on the promptness and brevity with which he communicated orders, and the strictness with which he drew the line between official and *unofficial* acts. Fond of jokes—himself a practical joker—he would as soon have been shot as to have smiled at the most ludicrous occurrence, if on parade or connected with duty; and although he was occasionally under the necessity of inflicting an arrest on some of us, yet he was never known, whatever might be his private sympathies, however friendly his disposition towards the sufferer, to express, by looks or actions, the slightest compassion; he sternly asked for the sword, gave the order to the culprit to confine himself to his quarters, and marched off. Some of the younger *subs* of the regiment occasionally insinuated that he carried his *official* ideas a *little* too far; and it was said among them (though only as a mess table joke) that Jacobs fully believed the non-commissioned staff, the band, and the regimental cooks, to be his own private property, in fee-simple.

One violation of strict military decorum, into which he unavoidably fell, I doubt not, preyed on the spirits of our adjutant for years. A company of the regiment was commanded by a very young subaltern, who held himself on the fine order, discipline and police of his company, and who, no doubt, took some unnecessary airs on himself in consequence. This young officer was constantly contriving new traps to catch the attention of his seniors, and to display his own military taste; for in those days, "regulations" did not so completely provide for every contingency of military police, as is now the case. Amongst other *fancies*, our lieutenant, on a review of the regiment by the commanding general, caused his company to *roll* their clothing, as is now generally done, in their knapsacks. This was then an entire novelty; and it was looked on by some of our old officers as a dangerous innovation; the lieutenant was considered *at least* as a presumptuous young man. The general, to the surprise of some of the older company officers, commended the tasteful appearance of the clothing, and the convenience with which any article might be selected or examined. He finally directed one of the men to draw out a shirt, for more minute inspection. This was, apparently, a contingency

not calculated on. The upper end was beautifully rolled, smooth and clean; but, alas! it was like "a whited sepulchre!" about two inches from the end was tied a woollen string to keep it in form; but the lower end had been crammed into the knapsack, and on producing it, hung waving in the wind (as one of the soldiers afterwards said) "*quite reedicklus*." No one spoke for a moment. The adjutant, after a tremendous struggle to govern his risible muscles, now electrified the whole regiment by a roar of laughter which might have been heard from right to left of an army corps. The general looked around, astonished at such a breach of decorum, but in vain. Jacobs was forced to remove his hands from his mouth to get breath. "Ha! ha! ha! (said he,) a rag-baby, by —!" In a moment it was over with him; sensible of his violation of propriety, his chin dropped and his face became painfully melancholy; but the spirit of laughter had communicated itself to every one else, and it was some time before order could be restored.

The soldiers, generally, were much attached to Jacobs, for besides having served with him a long time, they also knew that in him they were sure of finding a friend. Hence he kindly became the adviser of half the non-commissioned officers or privates who were so unfortunate as to be compelled to explain their misdeeds to a court-martial; in short, being "a friend in need," they considered him "a friend indeed." This, doubtless, suggested the joke I am going to mention.

A company had been detached from regimental head quarters and placed in garrison at a distant post, whence the officers, a set of merry wags, determined to inflict a hoax on Jacobs, then, as usual, attending to his duties with the regiment. A letter was accordingly written,—the combined efforts of all—and after much *correction* and *emendation*, the object of which, principally, was to ensure bad enough spelling, and a due regard to *repetition*, &c., something of which the following is but a faint type, was the result.

"BLACK HOAL, ——— CANTOONMENT,  
tuesday, the 14th march, &c.

"HORND CUR: i now take my pen in hand toe informe yew that i am in doalfull Captivity, and Wisky stopped—hopping theas few lins may finde yew ingoying thee sam Blessing—and if yure onner Wud pleas toe Rite toe mager ———, [the commanding officer,] or lutenant ———, [the officer who was *supposed* to have confined him,] i wud bee mutch Obleeged to yure onner, for the hole ridgemint nose yure onner is thee solgers frend. lutenant ——— said i Was A deserter from the twenty 9th ridgemint, *Which* yure onner well nose i Was Discharged at plattsburg by captin turner, [an officer who had commanded the 29th regiment at the peace, two or three years before,] and yure onner, well nose i was withe yure onner in the battel of ———, [an action in which Jacobs had handsomely distinguished himself,] and yure



onner coiled mee a good solger, and toald mee to Stand by yure onner, Which yure onner well nose i did; and If yure onner wil plese toe Rite to mager — or lutenant —, i wil Bee obleeged to yure onner," &c. &c. &c.

The letter went on to recapitulate other circumstances touching his present treatment and former services; about every third line, throughout, repeating the prayer to "his honor" to "write to Major — or Lieutenant —," &c.; and finally wound up with,

"yure onners Fathful solger

til Deth

JOHN HOGENSTOFFLE."

"p. s. if yure onner wil pleas toe Rite toe mager — or lutenant —, i will bee mutch Obleeged to yure onner."

This precious epistle was *carefully* copied by a servant of one of the contrivers; greased, blotted and dirtied, *a la black-hole*, folded in *square form*, sealed with shoe-maker's wax, and directed so that none but an experienced postmaster could have ever given it the right direction. In short, as one of the parties observed, "it would have deceived the elect." It is perhaps unnecessary to observe that no such man or such name as Hogenstoffle was ever heard of before; but the object was, by a recapitulation of probable circumstances in an artful manner, to deceive our straight-forward and unsuspecting adjutant.

The letter reached its destination, and in due course of mail came the response, addressed to Lieut. —, the officer mentioned by *Hogenstoffle*, as his oppressor, now, poor fellow! no more. It ran thus:

"— BARRACKS, June 18.

"SIR: Hogenstoffle has written to me that he is 'in the *plack hole*, and whiskey stopped,' and has begged of me to write to you on his subject. *I know him well*. He was an excellent soldier, and was discharged, I believe, by Captain Turner. If, sir, you can find it consistent with the good of the service to release him, you will greatly oblige,

Your friend and humble servant,

JNO. JACOBS, Adj't — Reg't."

The delight experienced by all concerned in this most perfect hoax was indescribable. The letter was carefully treasured up; and, on the return of the company to head quarters, at the first mess dinner, our friend Jacobs was interrupted in the midst of one of his best jokes, and intreated to read, for the benefit of the regimental mess, certain documents. He consented, and the original draft of Hogenstoffle's letter, with all its erasures, interlineations, and alterations, the handwritings of the different authors, together with his own answer, were handed to him; and not until he had well advanced in the first letter did he suspect he had been *quizzed*. Nevertheless, he relished the joke as a sensible man should do, and very heartily joined in the laugh which its reading produced.

## THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.

*To the Editor of the Military and Naval Magazine:*

SIR:—I have read the article, intended as a reply to my communication on "The Sandwich Islands in 183—" (see vol. 5, No. 1, of the Magazine,) which appears in the December number of your Journal.

It has never been my wish to provoke "a protracted discussion of the question;" nor was it my intention to say any thing which should cause such a rejoinder as is made in the December number. Situated as I am, I must now ask space sufficient, in one or the other of your publications, for the insertion of a few brief comments on what I consider the more exceptionable parts of the article referred to. Now that I am again called to the subject, I must make some short statements in corroboration of my former assertions; and let me, in this connexion, join with you, Mr. Editor, and admit "that the Military and Naval Magazine is not the most appropriate medium through which the subject of missions and missionaries should be introduced to the public;" and at the same time, agree "that the religious periodicals hereabouts would be closed against the opinions which I entertain."

I must remark, too, that it is high time "a liberal and enlightened community" understood this matter, and became convinced what a humbug (even in this, peculiarly, the age of humbugs) this Sandwich Island mission is.

All I seek is, that "truth should prevail."

WORCESTER, MASS:

I am, sir, yours respectfully,  
LEVI LINCOLN, Jr.

The Military and Naval Magazine for December, 1835, contains a communication in reply to an article, inserted in the preceding March number of the same periodical, under the head of "The Sandwich Islands in 183—." In this reply, the author of the former article is accused of "reiterating more than thrice repeated falsehoods"—"of setting forth charges which have been proved to be false, and are no longer current with the reading and philanthropic community." Accusations of this nature require substantiation on the one hand, or refutation on the other. If then, the author of "the Sandwich Islands in 183—" can satisfactorily refute the allegations brought against him, the individual who has made them, is at once convicted of wilful calumny.

Your correspondent tells us he was at the Islands, in 1826; and that two years after, Capt. Finch (now Bolton) visited them, in the Vincennes; and because operations did not strike them, then, as they did me, in 1832, argues (certainly from good premises

such a deduction can be made!) that—what? why, they are right, and those who come after are wrong! He then takes it for granted that I have had my eyes closed against *religious periodicals*, or I would have known that most of the charges "*revived*," as he expresses it, by me, are entirely out of date, etc. I willingly admit, that I have preferred judging by personal observation of missionary operations at Oahu, rather than from the *ex parte* statements usually found in religious periodicals, and one of my charges is, that the public are being made daily, the dupes of the designing on this subject. "Religious periodicals" generally, in this country, are but a poor index to the reaching a just conclusion relative to missionary operations in the south seas. Besides, there are "religious periodicals" in existence, which are mere organs of missionary misrepresentation, and, of course, entitled to not one jot of credit. By "religious periodicals," however, we next learn that the *Missionary Herald* is meant by your correspondent, and we, that is you and myself, sir, are told that if we will open a certain volume of that "religious periodical," and read within given limits, we shall find enough to convince us that great injustice has been done to the individuals comprising the foreign mission at the Sandwich Islands, as well as to the great cause of philanthropy and christian benevolence in which they are engaged, by the admission into the *Military and Naval Magazine* of—the extract "from a log book of the nineteenth century."

Were every thing contained in the *Missionary Herald* founded on fact, and viewed as the only authority in such cases, perhaps my charges might appear unfounded. Until this is admitted—so long as the "religious periodical" quoted is known exclusively to be the organ of the missionaries, and, as such, to trumpet forth their good works, if any,—or, I should say, to laud all their works as good, and to conceal their bad ones—so long must I have the presumption to ask that the public divide their opinions between us; at least that they do not credit one side alone. I cannot quietly submit to have all the statements of that "religious periodical," the *Herald*, considered as true, and all the charges made by the author of the "the Sandwich Islands in 183—" condemned as unfounded.

Notwithstanding these views, I propose giving your correspondent, bye and bye, one or two extracts from his favorite *Herald*: though, in doing so, perhaps I may have no other motive than simply to show him that the author of the extract "from a log book of the nineteenth century" has not *always* closed his eyes to "religious periodicals." At the same time I would have it distinctly understood that I do not view any statements works of this class may contain, as better entitled to our belief than though they were brought to us in periodicals of a different cast. I do not hold to the infallibility of argument advanced in the *Missionary Herald*, merely because it is a "religious periodical" over



arguments which may reach the community through other publications—the Military and Naval Magazine for instance, Mr Editor.

On one point, the author of the article in your December number and I agree. We both heard the same dialogue. Methinks he must have been less interested in it, however, inasmuch as, when he heard it, "a certain foreigner always personified Honoennooe," he tells us. I reiterate my assertion, that in the dialogue I have narrated, when it occurred in my hearing, Honoennooe was a native of Oahu, had been some years at Cornwall, Conn. and was educated for the mission, which, so soon as he reached Honolulu again, he totally condemned. If my reviewer remains doubtful after this, I can favor him with the name, etc. of the individual I refer to; and, whatever others may have heard to the contrary, I really believe the expressions contained in the part of that dialogue held by Honoennooe were in sincerity from his heart; and go further, and believe they are the sentiments of ninety-nine one-hundredths of the islanders. What is said to be no unfrequent occurrence at Oahu, was not the case with us; we saw a good deal of the missionaries; divine service was performed by one of their number on board; they attended an entertainment given them by the commodore; and, as for myself, I was on several occasions in their company, and can confidently assert, that with *them* was "the fairest opportunity of prejudicing the minds of our younger officers."

I pass over, for the present, the remarks of your correspondent, relative to the state of agriculture, etc. at the island. My assertions on that head can be supported by incontrovertible testimony.

I regret that, in justice to myself, I must again advert to the expulsion of the Catholic missionaries, but even this almost unparalleled act of barbarity, instigated and defended by Mr. Bingham and his associates, your correspondent would fain excuse. "Of the origin of the Jesuits attempting to plant themselves at Oahu," I freely confess my ignorance, except so far as informed by the article under consideration. I ask not, nor care I, what induced them to go there. I doubt not their motives were quite as pure as, and less to be questioned than, those which in 1820 actuated the American missionaries (the story about a certain English agent may go for what it is worth) to forsake their homes. Their *right* to locate was as good, if not better. For the example they gave, which inculcated labor, neatness, and other commendable qualities, foreign to the character framed by the "Protestant teachers" of the natives, I give them more credit than can properly attach to the Americans for all the acts of their lives; and to the Jesuitical interrogatory, in reference to the "evil consequences of exposing the natives of the island to the discussion of abstruse doctrinal tenets, upon which the most learned theologians do not agree," I postpone an answer for a few moments. On this subject much has already been written, and

more might be said condemnatory of the persecution. The best view I have seen of the matter is found in an article in the "Christian Examiner and General Review," for November, 1835, to which, though it be a "religious periodical," I have not closed my eyes, and shall probably again advert. The author of "The Sandwich Islands" says, that "a certain English agent at Honolulu remarked to him that the pomp and parade of Catholic ceremonies, and their holidays, and sabbath feasts, would so take with the natives, that a short time would suffice to bring about the *expulsion* of all other missionaries." While these other missionaries, it seems, (see Christian Register, another "religious periodical," vol. 14, no. 30, for March 7, 1835,) "boasted that they (the Frenchmen) would never make a single convert among the natives."

But we know enough when we become satisfied "that these Catholic missionaries were, on Christmas eve, 1831, taken by force from their homes and put on board a native vessel, carried to the coast of California, and landed on a desert part of the coast (St. Pedro's,) with only two bottles of water, and thirty miles from the nearest town. The followers were sentenced to hard labor for life, or until they renounced their religion;" for, be it understood, "no other doctrines, no other moral process, but the preaching of these doctrines—the pure doctrines of Calvin, will ever prove a remedy for the diseases of the soul." There must be no "cavilling or questioning the truth of *our* doctrines," proclaim Messrs. Bingham and Co. "Men, women, and even children, were kept carrying stones by day, and heavily ironed by night, with no shelter but a few mats laid over some sticks, and but little, very little, to eat, and not allowed to come to the village." We understand the matter aright when we know that this was done through Mr Bingham's instrumentality, and influence with the chiefs. "The American missionaries in their report, say that the French missionaries never had permission to settle. They know this to be false—they (the French missionaries) were told by Eoki, in presence of the king, the British consul, and several others, that they should be protected and allowed to remain as long as they did not interfere with the affairs of state." See letter from Mr. Richard Charlton, British consul at Oahu, published in the Calcutta Courier, and bearing date, 12th August, 1833. The Asiatic Journal of November, 1834, and Reynolds' "Voyage of the Potomac" may be referred to.

But why should I longer trespass upon your columns? Surely enough has been said to substantiate every charge made against the missionaries in the article headed "the Sandwich Islands in 183—" and we now see that the danger that "truth would prevail" has become so apparent of late to the missionaries themselves, that they are attempting to conceal former and long continued deception, under the plea that the natives are at present *retrograding*.

Nothing, I assert, but the restraint imposed, by the presence of

the foreign residents at the Sandwich Islands, on the usurpations of Mr. Bingham, and his associates generally, has saved the honest natives from worse than the horrors of the inquisition; and it is the check thus imposed which causes them to be so obnoxious to the missionaries—the “protestant teachers” of the islanders—individuals who are fed, clothed, and sheltered by misguided charity, induced by their own misrepresentations, from home, and sheltered, clothed, and fed again, by exactions from “these deluded pagans,” as Mr. B. subsequently calls them.

To prevent me from depicting these fanatics and their operations as I have seen them, they “in haughty contempt and spiritual pride, sitting in judgment upon their fellow sinners—in palaces of stone, as it were, reared by the hands of the poor ignorants around them,” and not as they would represent, “staff in hand, like apostles of old, journeying and laboring in the simplicity of the gospel:” to prevent me from depicting these things, I say,

“Neither evil tongues,  
Rash judgments, nor the sneers of selfish men,  
Nor greetings where no kindness is,  
Shall e’er prevail.”

But I should be done. I fear I have given the article, headed “the Sandwich Islands,” too much consideration; the source whence it emanates would seem to carry weight with it, and, on this account, solely, is it, that I have thought fit to attempt a reply.

One thing has surprised me—the incongruity of my reviewer’s sentiments. Here you are told that the article I wrote has “excited his surprise and mortification;” there, that “the charges I make have been proved to be false, and are no longer current with the reading and philanthropic community.” In one place, he says he replies to the article “because he has been disappointed in the hope of seeing abler advocates take up the subject”—the why he had withheld his manuscript awhile. In another place, “it is not his intention to expose my misrepresentations in detail, and he leaves that task to more able hands, of which, he says, no doubt enough will be found.” Finally, he applies a poetical quotation to me, forgetting (it must be wondered at) its quite as great applicability to himself, he having said in the commencement of his communication, that he too arrived at the islands “prejudiced against all foreign missionaries.”

I reassert that my opinions “are common to very many officers of the navy;” a great majority of those who have visited the islands; to nearly all who were on board the *Potomac*. I believe they would consider it the greatest “libel on their judgment and philanthropy,” to have it asserted that they did not *entirely disapprove* of the proceedings of the missionaries at the islands.

Lieut. Paulding observes, in his “Cruise of the U. S. schooner *Dolphin*,” which vessel was at the islands in Jan. 1826, but a very few months before the *Peacock*, that “a comparison of them (the



Sandwich Islanders) with the natives of the Marquesas or Mulgrave Islands would have been greatly to their disadvantage."

In regard to our visit, in the Potomac, it is not true that the "enemies of the missionaries had the fairest opportunity of prejudicing our minds." With us, the missionaries had decidedly the advantage in this respect. As to "the work of civilization going on, on shore," your author is the first person I ever knew to dream of *that* work in connection with the Sandwich Islands. Until I saw his communication, I never knew that civilization had been commenced there, and I had sufficient "time and opportunity" (though not exactly three months "in the inner harbor") to make up my mind on this point, as satisfactorily to my own conscience, as though our ship had have laid within a mile of Honolulu the whole period of her absence from the United States.

I come now to the "Missionary Herald." In the volume for 1833, the editor uses these triumphant words in speaking of the Sandwich Islanders: "*they are a christian people.*"\* "Christianity has preceded civilization and is leading the way to it." Yet unfortunately, in the very same volume, in the journal of Messrs. Dibble and Green, missionaries at Hilo, appears the following unlucky sentence, as if written on purpose to spoil his triumph—"as to the multitude, they are without feeling, without serious reflection, and without thought. Their minds are dark, their hearts insensible—*they are heathen.*"†

In the able article on the "Mission at the Sandwich Islands," published in No. 71, of the Christian Examiner, (a "religious periodical," against which my "eyes have not been closed,") for November, 1835, and to which I am indebted for the above quotation, as well as for some other facts embodied into this communication, we learn,—we have it in the last report of the American board of commissioners, for foreign missions, read at the 25th annual meeting, at Utica, in October, 1834, from the missionaries themselves, that "there are some strong indications at the present time of a retrograde march. Our schools, especially at Oahu, have suffered"—"unless God interfere with a strong hand and stretched-out arm, and save the people, we have much reason to fear that an overwhelming majority will turn away from all means of grace, and, in one broad phalanx, push their way to perdition." "The lower classes are a mass of corruption,—a great majority of them have gone back to their old habits, and their goodness has passed away like a morning cloud."‡

"The failure of the enterprise is distinctly announced, in the above alluded to report." The passage to which I allude, may be found in the Examiner above mentioned, pp. 238, 239; or in pages 87, 88, of the report. Let any one but read the *whole* article in said "religious periodical," if he does not keep his "eyes

\* Missionary Herald, Vol. xxix. p. 21.

† Ibid. p. 60.

‡ Missionary Herald, Vol. xxx. pp. 286, 287, 372.

closed " to periodicals of that stamp, and I am well satisfied "truth will prevail."

I am now done with the subject, and, so far as it goes, I consider the article in the March number of your Magazine to convey a correct idea of the state of such things as it pretends to describe, at "the Sandwich Islands in 1832."

We have seen by the missionaries' own report, that there had been no improvement in 1834; and, once more urging the public to withhold one means of maintaining a body of men in comparative idleness and ease, while they think they are subserving the "great cause of philanthropy and christian benevolence," I close, by offering to your correspondent's attention the following, from a Lowell paper of the last year:

"A gentleman called at the shop of a mechanic in this town, and politely requested a small donation from him, for the enlightening and education of the inhabitants of the Sandwich Islands. The mechanic listened to his importunities some time, and then putting his hand in his pocket, drew forth two cents, saying 'I give so much for the education of the unenlightened heathen, and here is a quarter of a dollar to defray the expense of getting the two cents to them.' The gentleman appreciated his meaning, and thanked him kindly for his generosity."

I remain,

Sir, very respectfully,

Your obed't. serv't.

LEVI LINCOLN, Jr.

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## LIFE AT SEA.

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### HUNTING A DEVIL FISH.

"Can I have the second gig, sir, to catch a devil fish?"—This request was made to the first lieutenant of the ——— by a midshipman, who bears the favorite cognomen of "Tom Coffin," by the wags of his mess; and this title he merits in more ways than one: *Firstly*, he somewhat resembles that personage in shape and figure, and largely partakes of all his good qualities: *Secondly*, he, like his predecessor of glorious memory, never feels half so happy or well contented as when, armed with a harpoon, he wages a war of extermination with the finny tribe, from the tiny smelt to the huge porpoise or devil fish; and to sum up his virtues and good qualities, he is the most nimble footed fellow in the ship—first at a sky-lark, and first at his duty. His request

was acceded to with some advice respecting the boat, such as to be careful of the boat.

"Take care of the wash-boards, and if she gets capsized, take care not to lose the oars, or the breakers."

Promises were made, and as the men were at dinner and could not be disturbed, four midshipmen and the master carpenter agreed to supply the place of the boat's crew. A harpoon was grasped by the quasi Tom Coffin, and in a few minutes the boat was rapidly increasing the distance between her and the ship, and lessening that between her and the fish. The weapon was poised, "So! lay on your oars!" whispered Tom. The object of their attack was quietly laying on the surface of the water, basking himself "in the noontide sultriness," and little suspecting that a party of reefers were plotting his destruction. The first notice he had of their approach was the barbed iron entering deep in his body; he swayed to and fro, lashed his fins, and endeavored to make his escape, but after he had run out twenty fathoms of line, Tom piped "belay!" and brought him to with a round turn. The devil fish, finding that this manœuvre not only deadened his headway but gave him intolerable pain, came on the surface of the water, looked around, and not perfectly understanding this new sensation, made sail in earnest. Away went the boat, at the rate of nine knots.

The officer of the deck, seeing the boat flying round the bay like the fabulous "Flying Dutchman," informed the captain, who ordered a boat to be manned, and armed with a couple of muskets and boarding pikes, to assist Tom in making the capture. The boat's crew, a midshipman, the gunner, and Sam Stanley, boat-swain's mate, were soon in the boat; as the latter stood erect in the bow of the boat, with a boarding pike poised, he was no indifferent representation of the Ocean god, only his weapon wanted two of the prongs. Stanley is a fine model of the native born tar, athletic and robust, with a reckless air about every thing he does. In fact, his daring look would have procured him a gallows at Kingston, Jamaica, if ever it had been his bad fortune to have been caught by John Bull under suspicious circumstances, when pirates in the West Indies were plenty. In the mean time, as the devil fish had no particular regard to the course he should steer, the boats soon met; in jumped the gunner and Stanley, and out jumped a little midshipman, whose ashen countenance very plainly indicated that he had been sufficiently amused. Tom Coffin, when joined by such an effective force, felt sure of his capture, and relinquishing the end of the tow line to the carpenter, fisted one of the boarding pikes.

"Now haul on the line, Chips! Stand by, Tubes, to give him a pill as he comes up!" The carpenter, by hauling on the line, brought him up directly under the bows of the boat; crack! went the musket, the ball and wadding making a ghastly wound in his cranium. Repeated wounds were made by the frequent applica-



tion of the boarding pikes, and the monster, writhing in agony, thinking matters were coming to a crisis, lashed his fins fiercely, to the imminent hazard of the boat; but yet his strength was undiminished, and off he started at a rate sufficiently quick to alarm the inmates of the boat about their personal safety. When, disastrous to relate! the harpoon drew. Tom looked *dumbfounded*. All hands laughed, and bent their bodies to the oars, to pull back to the ship against a head wind and three knot current.

#### THE LOST SAILOR.

We were sailing along the coast of Africa one evening, in the sloop of war A . . . , with a light breeze from the land. All our light sails were set "to woo the zephyrs," (as some pretty writer says.) The sky at this time was unclouded and the stars shone with heavenly brilliancy. The officers and men were standing in groups, talking of their hopes and fears, on their return to their "native land." Suddenly a flash of lightning was seen directly ahead of the ship, and a black cloud rising in the same direction. It grew larger and larger, and onward came. Instantly all was bustle and preparation to meet the coming storm. The light sails were taken in, the top-sails clued down, and made ready for reefing. The jib was hauled down, and fore-topmast staysail set in its place. The spanker too was trailed up, and the courses closely hauled up; in short every thing was made ready to meet an awful storm. The heavens were now entirely overcast, the lightning flashed freely, accompanied by most tremendous peals of thunder. The rain descended in *perpendicular* torrents on our devoted heads; and, if I may venture an opinion, I think they took the trouble to boil the water in these latitudes before sending it down; for what reason I cannot say. All I do know is, that the water, instead of cooling, heated us. But I leave this subject for wiser heads than mine to argue. But to continue our yarn: The men were ordered to get under cover as soon as possible. Then was there a rush to get under the top-gallant fore-castle. But amidst this noise was heard the fearful cry of "a man overboard." The first lieutenant immediately sprung to the quarter. He distinctly saw, by the flashing of the lightning, a dark form floating by. The life buoy was cut away; the quarter boat lowered, and sent in pursuit of the object; but after an hour's ineffectual search, the boat returned with nothing but the life buoy; "Who is it? Who can it be?" was asked by every one; but *none* knew. The beat of the drum "to quarters," soon put a stop to all questions. The men were mustered and all found present. That somebody was overboard, there could be no doubt, for the first luff had seen the body, and he can never be in the wrong. The heavens again cleared (as the heavens will sometimes do,) the men again resumed their long yarns, and this late occurrence gave food for most marvellous tales.

It was about seven bells in the morning watch, that a man came aft, and touching his hat to the officer of the deck, told him that by some strange occurrence, his bag, in which he kept his clothes, was lost. The officer asked him where he had left it the night previous: He answered, that he had left it on the top-gallant fore-castle, close to the hammock nettings. All now was clear. In his hurry to get out of the rain he had forgotten his bag, and others, in as great a hurry to follow his example, had knocked his bag overboard. The look-out hearing a splash and seeing a dark object on the water, gave the alarm, and our first luff was wrong for once in his life.

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*From the United Service Journal, November, 1835.*

#### PAY AND EMOLUMENTS

OF THE FRENCH AND ENGLISH NAVAL OFFICERS.

In the comparison of the pay and rewards between the French and British armies, which appeared in this journal, the remarks are confined to the non-commissioned officers and soldiers,\* and the undeniable fact is established, that the advantage greatly preponderates in favor of the former; in the general accuracy of which review the *Journal de l'Armée* acquiesced.

In drawing the comparison between the official pay and emoluments of the French and English navies, great difficulties present themselves. Indeed, to arrive at just conclusions, we ought not entirely to forget the statistics of the two governments, and the effects which their state of civilization, their various habits, manners, and duties, and also the prices of domestic necessities have on their relative ranks. A reference to their official archives must be resorted to; and with these, a residence in their naval ports to which they are restricted, in order to obtain their full pay, would tend to throw greater light on the subject. The writer of the present article not having enjoyed personally these opportunities, his information will be necessarily drawn from the statements and opinions of distinguished French officers, and equally strengthened by reports, extracted from a great mass of public documents.

In confining these remarks to the officers, the value and importance of our petty officers and seamen are not on this account less estimated, feeling as we all must how very great the share of

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\*A comparison of the pay and rewards of French and British officers will be given in a future number.—En.

those glories and honors which our navy have wrested from their country's enemies rest with them. Therefore, without entering into a detail, those who are acquainted with France and its customs, or who have inspected the society of their seaports, will agree with the writer that the British sailor possesses advantages over the French seaman, similar to those which the French soldier enjoys over the British; and this is to be attributed solely to the popularity of the services in their respective countries. Since the annihilation of the French navies and the destruction of her maritime commerce, France places but a secondary interest in her naval defence. And although the French ministers have yearly in the budget demonstrated the rising maritime wealth of France, the necessity of a naval defence in the event of a hostile rupture, the disgrace as well as the impolicy of thus betraying their weakness and consequent loss of their colonies, as also a certain defeat with their enemies, yet so little sympathy has been enlisted in their behalf, that the opposition, finding their echo in the nation upon this subject, resist invariably their project of a naval increase. Indeed nothing but the danger of an impending war, coupled with an assurance of a friendly naval alliance against their natural antagonists, can obtain from the National Deputies an assent for placing the naval arm of France in that situation which her political position in Europe would naturally demand.

If, according to Chateaubriand, France be considered "a soldier," Great Britain may be safely held up as "a sailor." For our mighty commercial intercourse with the globe, resulting from the national industry of three fourths of her population, must necessarily require a preponderating naval protection; and this conviction is so embodied in the nation, and so identified with our national wealth and prosperity, that in all our numerous naval philanthropic institutions, the patriotic noblemen and wealthy citizens vie in their exertions to support these establishments. This naval feeling, so general to the metropolis, extends itself to the colonies, which yearly transmit large sums for the support of the above institutions; while in France, so low is the consideration attached to seamen, that they have no exclusive institutions; and it was not until the translated Report of the Dreadnought Seaman's Hospital had pointed out to Admiral Duperé, the present Minister of Marine, that the protection and care which the French seamen received from British philanthropy in that, the only institution, founded on the universal principle of charity, were greater than those which they received in their own country, that their accustomed enemies treated them more humanely than their country's friends: it was only after this report that the French government promulgated a circular, upon which the following comment is extracted from the Brest newspaper—"By a singular anomaly, in the event of our seamen being shipwrecked on a foreign shore, our Consuls were ordered to give them all possible assistance; and in the event of being cast away in France, the duties of the public officers were



restricted to saving the crew and cargo, without the obligation of securing from death such unfortunate sailors as had reached the shore destitute and forlorn, with a distance of perhaps 200 leagues from their native homes. A circular of the Minister of Marine, signed Duperré, compels towards shipwrecked mariners in France the observance of the same conduct as is adopted in foreign countries." It is an act of justice, however, due to the French nation to state, that Admiral Keralio de la Bruchollière has lately bequeathed the most magnificent donation that any country can boast of to establish a college at Brest for invalid seamen. This sum, a million of francs, the entire fortune of this truly great and noble-minded veteran, while it conveys a moral lesson to the French government, demonstrates the benefits extended to mankind by those philanthropical institutions, which constitute, in no small degree the greatness of our empire.

Although, in the advantages hitherto possessed by the British sailor, an offset may be found in the hardship of impressment, and the still greater one of corporal punishment; yet in France, such are the workings of the naval registry, so completely and wilfully are its intentions perverted, and its regulations crushed by bribery, encouraged by the very civilians who are intrusted with their due execution, and who have thus invaded the natural prerogatives of the naval officer, who alone could be supposed effective in enforcing these regulations, that the registry by these abuses must be considered not one of general enrolment, but rather a perpetual and private impressment of the harshest features, from whose severity and effects, while it enables the ordinary and worthless seamen to escape, causes them to fall too frequently on the able and meritorious.\*

Then, with respect to corporal punishment, if the British sailor be subjected to its effects, he braves this treatment with his brother soldier. Not so in France, where, although its army has removed this punishment from its military code, the navy by its own, of 1790, and now forming their only guide, is still shackled, not only with the disgusting terrors of the gauntlet, but also with the inhuman spectacle of *La Cale mouillée*; † a punishment which, in the present day, is at such variance with the professed principles of

\* "To encourage the establishment of classes, (naval registry,) one should remove that *esprit de lésinerie*, by which the Bureaus have forever destroyed the finest of our maritime institutions. We should release from the despotism of clerks the seaman who is always dissatisfied, unless he finds himself commanded by chiefs capable of appreciating his merit. For who ought to know the sailor better than he who associates with him from his infancy? Who knows his character? Who is it that even indulges his caprices? Certainly not the *man of the pen*, who is unable to harmonize with these men of the ocean; he merely knows them by the profits which he extracts from those who seek by chicanery to avoid that turn for service afloat with which they are threatened."—*Annales Maritimes*.

† We have formerly condemned the cruelties of our Penal Maritime Code. Here is another act which has left at Toulon the most painful remembrance. The 5th of September, 1834, the report of a gun announced that the punishment

this gallant nation, that its approval is really more astonishing than its former actual adoption. To this the British sailor is happily not degraded, and therefore he may claim a superiority over, or at least an equality with the French seaman in the article of corporal punishment. These observations, though not necessarily applicable to the subject under consideration, I have nevertheless introduced, from the circumstance of their being the leading naval questions of the day; I shall, therefore, without further comment, compare the respective state of the junior official class in both navies—viz: the French Elève and the English Midshipman.

In the British navy, although no preliminary examination is held as to the qualities and attainments of the youngster, and therefore it is possible, though not probable, that one may be introduced unworthy of his pay and allowances, while in the French service the education of a gentleman is a *sine qua non* to his reception; yet, in the latter he is assured of his eventual though gradual promotion, and also the certainty of being in his turn employed afloat, by means of a roster, vigilantly attended to by all, and kept by the *Major General* (Rear-Admiral) of the ports to which they are attached. Now with us, a midshipman, although backed with the Admiralty, and the still more irresistible *Parliamentary* interest, (the bane of the service,) by which he may have obtained admission into the Royal Naval College, even then the Admiralty confine its indulgence only to one solitary appointment afloat, and as soon as the ship is paid off, the youngster is thrown back on his anxious parents and the chance of the world, when it frequently happens that many, after a long period of vainly soliciting to re-obtain an appointment, during which their hopes have administered too strongly to their patience, ultimately abandon a profession in which they have idly sacrificed the best part of their youth, and retire with feelings of acrimony against a system, which in peace is notoriously supported by the rich and privileged, for the sole purpose of political ascendancy.

If the advantageous position of the French Elève is so manifest at the very outset, his financial support from the government bears the same friendly ratio—the Second Class monthly salary being 2*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.*, while that of the Midshipman is only 2*l.* 8*s.* The Elève of the First Class is 4*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.*, and the English Mate only 3*l.* 18*s.*

But if, in the comparison between the French and British soldier's pay, *one half*, justly considered by the writer of that article as the favorable difference in France between their respective expenditure, be carried to the account of the French Elève, the two

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of *La Cale* would be inflicted on a seaman. This unfortunate man, after having been dropped into the water from the main yard-arm, was drawn out senseless. The ship-surgeon, however, by careful attendance produced re-animation. This punishment is characteristic of a barbarous people, and is the subject of general astonishment that the French are still subjected to it. A few days after a seaman twice ran the gauntlet; this is another of those corporal punishments which can only inspire horror and disgust.—*Eclaireur de Toulon*.

ranks will stand thus—4*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* to 2*l.* 8*s.*, and 6*l.* 0*s.* 9*d.* to 3*l.* 18*s.*\* Indeed, while the pay of our Midshipman is so inadequate, that an annual allowance of 50*l.* is required from his parents for a period, definite not by merit, but by interest, and falling the heaviest on the ill-requited veteran who can the least afford it, the French Elève of the second class pays only the half for the first two years, and the first class are enabled to maintain both their rank and corresponding social enjoyments, and even to economise on their appointments alone.

In these advantages the public participates, by the certainty of possessing at all times efficient officers. For the number of Elèves, 200 first class, and 100 second class, to which the French navy is so advantageously restricted, keeping them either constantly afloat or in their respective seaports, while it practically consolidates a vigorous naval arm, neither causes disappointment to meritorious and ardent youth, nor creates, as with us, a nest of importunate applicants for our *badgered* Admiralty *lay* lords, whose utter ignorance of the service must sometimes render their situations by no means a bed of roses. These superior advantages in the French Elève, who claims a gradual right to the rank of commander, are extended through all the ranks of their profession, as the following extract, made from the *Journal de la Marine*, (1833,) will show :

“There are 3 Admirals, each receiving 1500*l.* per annum, when employed either at sea or as a public functionary on shore; 10 Vice Admirals, idem, at 756*l.*; 20 Rear-Admirals at 500*l.*; 28 Post-Captains, of the first class, at 250*l.*; 42 second class at 215*l.*; 70 frigate Captains at 175*l.*; 90 Commanders at 150*l.*; 450 line-of-battle-ship Lieutenants at 100*l.*; and 550 frigate Lieutenants at 75*l.* Independently of these fixed appointments, the ward-room officers and midshipmen receive when afloat table money, exceeding in value the third of their pay, while to the superior ranks these advantages are more than doubled. Every officer, the admirals and captains excepted, have equally with the rest of the crew daily rations of ten pence value.” Thus the 3,000*l.* a year of a French Admiral afloat, assisted by the 50 per cent., equalling 4,500*l.* contrast painfully with the pay and allowances of 2,916*l.* of a British Admiral: that of the French *Capitaine de Vaisseau* 750*l.*, with the 644*l.* of our Post Captain; that of the French Commander 450*l.*, with the scanty Commander’s pittance of 278*l.*; and the 210*l.* of the French Lieutenant, with the 138*l.* of our own. Nor are these the only superior advantages possessed by the French officers: for while dandyism and luxuries have been forever unknown in the French navy, they have, since the peace, owing, on the one hand, to the negligent leniency of our *old school* warriors, and on the other to the exertions and wishes of the Parliamentary

\*At Brest, for the superior officers, the expenses for the table d’hôte, providing two substantial meals with a bottle of wine, is from 60 to 70 francs a month; and for the other officers 45 francs. A decent lodging can be obtained at 20 francs a month.



shore-going new school, been so extensively encouraged in our navy, that the articles of dress and the table leave nothing for those contingences not only required for the rank, but incidental to our profession.\* This virtually prohibits the practical veteran from assisting his son to embrace that profession, of which his father's experience would enable him to become at a future period an ornament; while, on the other hand, the French *married* officers, when afloat, are not only enabled to support themselves and to administer to the comforts of their families ashore, but also economize *one-third* of their appointments.

As the cadre of each grade is restricted by enactments to a certain number, the officers of the above classes are enabled, proportionably with the *Elèves*, to be kept 18 out of the 25 years constantly at sea, being the amount of time required of each French officer before he can obtain his retirement. Hence this restrictive system enforced on the officers, combined with the liberal treatment, reciprocate with the country, which is thus benefitted by the establishment of practical officers, all of whom, from the *Elève* to that of Commander, rise by gradual seniority. A proportion of each grade, however, is reserved, in cases only of *extraordinary* merit, for the exercise of the king's prerogative, for which an exclusive gazette is necessary. Thus at least two-thirds of the French Lieutenants are constantly at sea, while in the English navy only one eighth are in this really desirable and necessary state, frequently creating anomalies by giving appointments from the half-pay list to old Lieutenants, almost incompetent by (as it were) a *forced* retirement of 15 and 20 years, and thus bringing them over the heads of officers, their juniors in rank, but superior in practical seamanship: the government appearing to consent to an extravagant expenditure, and the increase of unpractical and useless officers by the ill-advised and cruel rejection of the veteran classes; to gradually create by their neglect a body of avowed hostility, which would subsequently force, by numbers and despair, their claims on the country's notice; would neglect the public weal and sound principles for private patronage and expediency: in short, would commit any extravagance, rather than abandon the only hopes of securing that political atmosphere in which they have ever been accustomed to exist.

Although the rank of commander is guaranteed to every *Elève* in right of seniority or merit, he is not, after the attainment of this rank, disposed of in a summary manner, or his claims resisted on the plea of the simple quarterings of his shield, his want of influence, or, that still greater want, a strong purse as a *corruptive* prin-

\* "The gun-room officers' mess costs them each 100 francs monthly without wine, there being no government allowance for the table. Thus do the officers of the British navy spend more than half of their appointments for the table; and as custom exacts a rigid propriety in their dress and in the reception of strangers, they can find with difficulty in the other half the means of meeting these expenses."—Extracted from a book entitled "Two Months on board an English Frigate, by a French Naval Officer."

ciple in electional matters. No; these *stoppers* to his preferment are not brought to bear on *him*. On the contrary, a conviction of the justice which animates the Minister of Marine stimulates him to the hopes of attaining that high honor of the king's adviser on questions of naval affairs, which are enjoyed in the present day by the minister, who has, equally with himself, moved in the humble rank of *élève* or *mousse*. The want of this system in our service is not only sensibly felt by the interminable and inert life, which those active but *no-interest* veterans are doomed to endure who head the list of their ranks, but the country is subjected to an annual increase of national debt, which, according to the statement of Sir John Barrow before the last parliamentary committee of the house, amounted to the sum of 150,000*l*. To illustrate the truth of this fact, let it be observed that while in France the senior lieutenant's commission, and that of the commander's, by the lists of 1833, bear the dates of 1821 and 1822; that of the senior lieutenant in the Royal navy indicates the year 1778, and its commander 1787. Thus, while with our neighbors these appointments are directly in accordance with their legitimate privileges—with us, the claims are, unless too strong for evasive sophisms, invariably in an inverse ratio to merit. To applicants of a medium service, the usual political reply for appointment is "*too young*;" and when exhausted patience has too frequently reiterated the claim, the answer is, "*too old*,"—thus adding insult to misfortune.

The admirals, also, who could only attain their rank by graduating through a long ordeal, meriting the *utmost* consideration of their sovereign and their country, are subjected to harsher treatment than the inferior grades, because they less demerit it. For how many are there whose servitude is double, aye treble, that of the clerks about the government offices, and who, though they are covered with wounds and empty honors gained in the exertion to keep the enemy from the doors of these very gentlemen, yet receive not one half of the retiring pension which these *soi-disant* civil officers manage to extract from the public exchequer? Nay, even the application of the general principle, which went to promote one out of every three deaths, has not been extended to them or the senior post-captains. We, therefore, must naturally come but to one conclusion—that in the present day, neither service, valor, merit, nor any manly qualities can avail, unless assisted by parliamentary influence; and that, if the system be not shortly altered, the British navy will be, bit by bit, gradually offered up as a sacrifice to appease the voracious appetite of those political supporters, who seem in the present day to consider the appointments and promotions in the navy a just reward for their political profligacy.

Those posts of honor for which men of the world seem so well adapted, and which in France are frequently conferred, and very properly, on Admirals; such as ambassadors, ministers, and governors, are considered with us as a kind of sacred property, not

to be even approached by the naval hero. In France, while the three Admirals enjoy the rank of Field-Marshal, with a salary of 40,000 francs, what have our Admirals to advance? With the exception of a few paltry sinecures, what honorary appointment has he on shore? Their Vice and Rear Admirals hold between them the governments of Martinique, Guadeloupe, Bourbon, and the French establishment in India, while not a British Admiral holds the government of any of our numerous colonies; though singular as it may appear, a few of the minor ones, which went a begging, have been doled out to a *couple* of old Post-Captains.

The establishment of the French Admiralty, which formerly presented a union of civil and naval functionaries, has, since the late revolution, become, with respect to its Director, purely naval, the three late ministers being all of this profession. Two naval officers, as secretaries in their uniforms, give each alternately duties to the Minister, and thus spare to naval men the pain of exposing, as has been the case with us, his grievances to officers of a rival profession. One hundred and twenty thousand francs is the income of this personage, with a sum of 500*l.* for his outfit; but the country is not saddled with a retiring pension on his resignation.

The half-pay of the English navy is unknown in France; but after a period of 25 years' active service, the different grades become entitled to a retirement, (*solde de retraite*,) about equalling our half-pay, and proportionate to their service and merits. At his demise a part of his retired allowance is awarded to his widow, or, in her absence, to his children under the age of twenty. True, they have no freight, and their prize-money is reduced by one-third, to which the state lays claim; yet the little prize-money made in these days reduces the advantages in this respect in either country to the same level, for freight in our service is now the exclusive property of the *monied interest*. No man is struck off the list except for offences of great magnitude, and then he has the privilege of being tried by a court-martial.

The decorative honors, which are of five different grades, are extended in the French navy to the lieutenants, and no officer can obtain an advance unless he can claim it in right of successive merit, while with us it is limited to Post-Captains; and there are many Admirals of well-known valor and long-trying experience, who have performed brilliant exploits, and received from their country unequivocal testimonies of their services, who have been passed over neglected. In France, the institutions for the education of officers' children, and preparing them for either of the military professions, are more numerous and on a more liberal footing than in England. Those officers, without fortune, (*sans fortune*,) procure easily gratuitous, or semi-gratuitous, education at the government expense; a number of purses (*bourses*) or half-purses being given to the army and navy by the Minister of Instruction, annually, while one daughter of each family of the Legion of



Honor is entitled to receive a similar gratuitous education, which for eight years, at the rate of 50*l.* per annum, to which it amounts, is a bonus of 400*l.*

To the *Ecole Navale* (the *Orion* at Brest) each pupil pays 800, although his cost to government amounts to 4,000 or 5,000 francs, while in the Royal Naval College the English Lieutenant pays a sum equal to that which is paid by the French Admiral; and so limited are the means of our officers, so few are the public institutions to which they can claim even a partial admittance for their children that many Post-Captains, rather than witness their children conducted to manhood without education, resort painfully to the alternative of placing them in the Naval School at Greenwich; where, by associating with the children of common seamen who compose the great majority of the establishment, for whom it was exclusively intended, and ought to be for them alone, they in some measure nullify the advantages of a good nautical education, by reducing their social attainments to the level of the lowest order in the state; thus losing on one hand what they may gain on the other.

Could the present unusual charges of the Royal Naval College be made to reach the means of the navy, and of which there can be little doubt, and a system of gymnastics, which to the sailor is almost equally essential with navigation, be established as at Greenwich, which has sent forth youngsters calculated in every way for most able and skilful seamen, and a vessel be also part of the institution, to unite practice with theory, by cruising occasionally in the Channel, then those objections so frequently raised against the Royal Naval College would be removed, as its internal management leaves nothing at which the most captious could cavil. If the pay and comforts of the English officer sink thus beneath those of the French, their widows occasionally suffer in a still greater ratio; for while France places at the disposal of the Minister 30,000 francs annually for the purchase of chronometers and mathematical instruments, etc.—in our country, such is the little sympathy voluntarily manifested by government for nautical science or improvement, that the widow of Captain Skyring, who was sent on a survey to the coast of Africa, in the execution of which he fell, like his great countryman Cook, a victim to his zeal and perseverance, disfigured by seventy wounds from the African lance, was compelled to enlist the charity of a British public to meet the demands of her husband's creditors, who had furnished him with scientific instruments to prosecute that survey, *in which the public alone were interested.*

Thus we have carefully and impartially collated the benefits and disadvantages of either service; and if reason and justice be the standard which must guide us to the conclusion, every lover of the one and admirer of the other must at once pronounce an opinion, that the French and English navy are with respect to liberal treatment, pay, allowances, consideration, advance by service or merit

n every grade, both as regards themselves, their wives and children, and in all things directly and indirectly, in *diametrics* to each other; and that the advantages on the part of the French officer predominate so manifestly over those of the English, that it is not only the more surprising, because this arm is less esteemed in France, but also the more painful because the English officer less demerits this treatment: that although since the peace, reforms have been demanded and instituted in all branches of the legislature by the unanimous and repeated petitions of the national bodies, yet in the navy, who have for years past, up to the present hour, exposed glaring abuses, corrupt influence, and every other species of grievances and acts which disrepute and destroy its character, yet not one remedy has been applied, except for *financial* purposes; and so far from reform having arrested those evils, which time and irresponsible power necessarily introduce into all public institutions, the navy has daily become less efficient, less esteemed, and less noticed than any public body in the country.

W. H. DICKSON.

August 14th, 1835.

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*From Silliman's Journal.*

#### WATER SPOUTS.

BY LIEUT. H. W. OGDEN, U. S. NAVY.

DEAR SIR: At the suggestion of several of my friends, with whom I have lately conversed on the subject of that singular, and as yet unexampled phenomenon, the water spout, I take the liberty of sending for your consideration, a short account of the appearance of several of them, which once surrounded our ship at the same time, giving us, from their proximity, a better opportunity of observing them than is generally had.

In May, 1820, while on our passage from Havana to Norfolk, in the U. S. sloop of war John Adams, we had reached the latitude of Cape Fear, and were near the inner edge of the gulf stream, when the wind died away, the weather became very warm, and the atmosphere close and oppressive. The crew were lounging listlessly about the deck, dreading the dull monotony of a continued calm, when one of the seamen called out, that there was a water spout on the larboard bow.

The officers immediately rushed up from below, and I among the number; but we had scarcely reached the deck before a second and a third were seen, and within half an hour, there were seven around us, varying in their distance from the ship, from two hundred yards to two miles.

The atmosphere was filled with low, ashy-colored clouds, some of which were darker underneath than others; and from these the water spouts were generally formed, each one from a separate cloud. In some instances they were perfectly formed before we observed them; but in others, we could see a small portion of the cloud, at first extend downwards in the shape of an inverted cone, and then continue to descend, not very rapidly, until it reached the water. In other instances, however, we observed that this conical appearance of a portion of the cloud did not always result in the perfect formation of a water spout. Several times we saw the cone project—continue for a short time stationary—then rise again slowly and disappear in the clouds. This would in some cases occur two or three times to the same cloud; but eventually a larger and darker cone would descend, and result in forming the visible spout as above mentioned.

We saw so many of these failures, that the eye very soon became accustomed to that degree of density in the cone which would ensure its descent, and even the sailors became practical philosophers for the time, correctly predicting when a spout would be formed, and when it would fail.

While intently watching these various operations, we observed that the nearest water spout, then about two hundred yards on our starboard quarter, was moving slowly towards the ship with a light air from the eastward. The captain immediately ordered the top-sails to be clued down, the hatches to be covered with tarpaulins and battened, the crew to be sent under deck, and directed some of the marines to be in readiness with loaded muskets to try what effect might be produced by the concussion of firing, as it is the general belief that water spouts may be broken by this means. As soon as it was near enough, the marines were ordered to fire, and although many of the balls must have passed directly through it, neither the perforation or concussion had the slightest effect on it. The marines were ordered to load and fire again, and in the meantime I was directed to cast loose one of the thirty-two pounders. I did so, and took aim directly at the base of the spout, then within sixty yards, and fired. The captain, and others who were watching the effect to be produced, said, they distinctly saw the ball strike the spout at its base, dashing the water on either side, but still it remained as perfect as before. I was ordered to load and fire again, and to elevate the gun so as to strike the tube as high as possible, but just as I was in the act of pulling the lock spring, the captain looked aloft, and observing the head of the spout directly over the main truck, called out to me to hold on, not wishing to try farther experiments while it was in such dangerous proximity to the ship. For some minutes I had been too much occupied with the gun to notice, particularly, the position and progress of the water spout; but now, on looking up, I saw the dense black cloud, from which it was formed, hanging immediately over us, at a height, as nearly as I could judge, of between



three and four hundred feet, and the upper part of the spout directly over the mast heads. When at a distance of two hundred yards, the tube of the spout seemed to fall perpendicularly from the cloud to which it was attached; but, as it approached, the cloud alone moved steadily on, while the lower part of the tube, as though it found something repulsive in the ship, diverged slowly to the south-west, and passed the stern at a distance of about sixty yards.

This, however, was no doubt caused by a difference in the current of air above and below, as I observed that some of the others, more distant from the ship, would occasionally vary from a perpendicular line and then resume it.

While the spout was thus moving slowly by us, we had a good opportunity of observing it attentively; and, as we were well convinced that it was not to be broken, or dispersed by the concussion of firing, the gun was secured.

Around the base of the spout, for several feet, the sea was considerably agitated, and a few feet above, a gyratory motion was very distinct, tending upward, and accompanied by a whizzing noise, something like that made by a small quantity of steam, escaping through a valve, which is not very tight.

The tube of the spout was apparently four or five feet in diameter, and its surface well defined. Its color was light and misty, but we observed that they all looked darker at a distance, than when close to us. Its shape was somewhat like a trumpet—the small end downwards, and spreading out suddenly as it united with the cloud. At a height of between twenty and thirty feet from the water, a number of sea birds were flying around it, evidently in quest of food. They were in rapid motion, flitting and crossing each other's path at every moment, darting in towards the tube, wheeling away, and then as hastily returning. In the meantime, the cloud above, which had rapidly grown denser and larger, began to exhibit coruscations of electricity. The spout which had passed off to a distance of about three hundred yards, after having been visible more than twenty minutes, became smaller at its lower part, and then gradually rose until entirely lost in the cloud, part of which still hung over us. Soon after this several severe flashes of lightning struck near to the ship, and the rain began to fall in large and very cold drops. Some of the sailors, who believed that the water was taken up in a body to the clouds, tasted the rain as it fell on the deck, and were very much astonished to find it perfectly fresh. A light breeze now sprung up, bearing the cloud off to the westward, which, as it passed on, assumed the appearance of a heavy squall, and from its accelerated motion, it was evidently carried forward by a strong wind.

In another instance, on board the same ship, we were one day sailing with a light breeze from the westward, all sail set, and the weather mild and pleasant. Light fleecy clouds were, occasionally, passing over the ship, but unattended by any increase of wind.

I was officer of the deck, at the time, and my attention was attracted to one of the clouds, which was somewhat lower than the others, but it also passed over, without the slightest change in the strength of the breeze. It very soon, however, began to grow darker, and in a few moments I observed the formation of an inverted cone on its lower edge, and a slight agitation of the sea directly under it. The cone continued gradually to descend, until it joined with the agitated point beneath—thus rendering the whole length of the spout visible. It was, at this time, about a cable's length on the lee quarter. The cloud continued to increase, until as large as those which produce the ordinary squalls met with at sea, and soon after the spout disappeared, the lightning began to flash, and the rain to fall so heavily, as entirely to obscure a brig, about eight miles to the leeward of us. In a few minutes, the cloud passed over her, and when she reappeared, we saw that she had furled her light sails, and clewed down her topsails, evidently having experienced a heavy squall.

I have here given you the principal facts, as well as I remember them; but, I very much regret that so favorable an opportunity of witnessing these singular phenomena, was not enjoyed by one, whose scientific knowledge would have enabled him to arrive at some correct conclusions on the subject. Writers who have already given their attention to it, differ very widely indeed in their theories. Dr. Franklin, Dr. Richardson, Dr. Stuart, M. de la Pryme, and others, contend that the water ascends to the cloud. Dr. Lindsay treats this opinion with great severity, and exercises both his wit and his genius to prove that the water descends in all instances, and that a water spout and a whirlwind are entirely different. Dr. Perkins, of Boston, held to the same belief, and had a long correspondence with Dr. Franklin on the subject; but it ended by each adhering to his own opinion. Mr. C. Colden, of New York, differs again from all these, and (in a letter to Dr. Franklin, I think) asserts, from his own observation, that what is called a water spout, "is a violent stream of wind rushing from the upper regions," etc. Indeed, all these gentlemen seem to have derived their different opinions from facts within their own observation, which go directly to prove their various theories; from which we can only infer, that water spouts are very different, in their appearance and operation, at different times.

At a short distance of sixty yards, I could see no evidence of a column of water, rising within the tube, to a height of thirty-two feet, as mentioned by Dr. Stuart. Had this been the case, the spout must have had a much darker appearance thus far, than from thence upward, which was not the case; but it was, on the contrary, more dense at the upper part, where it united with the cloud. But, even admitting that the water may rise within the tube, to a height of thirty-two or thirty-three feet—equal to the weight of the atmosphere—by what means is so dense a body

carried upward several hundred feet higher, and there so diffused as to form a cloud? We believe that clouds are formed of vapor, which, when they become more dense than the surrounding atmosphere, form into drops and descend in rain. How then can a body of water, which is already heavier than the atmosphere, be supported within it, after spreading from the upper part of the spout? It seems to me that it would, as a matter of course, fall again the moment it left the impelling influence which carried it upward.

On the other hand, Dr. Lindsay contends that the water *descends* in a body, and describes a spout, as seen by himself, near the banks of Newfoundland, where he says the sea was so agitated by the violence of the falling water, that their ship felt its influence, and was considerably tossed by it at a distance of half a mile. This was very different from any case that ever came within my observation. In the course of my sea service, I have seen, perhaps, as many as twelve water spouts, but never observed any agitation of the sea caused by them, that would give a ship the slightest motion, even within sixty yards. I am confident that a boat might have approached within a ship's length of the one I have described, as being nearest to us, without the least danger.

As to the theory of Mr. Colden, that the phenomenon usually called a water spout, is nothing more than a stream of wind, rapidly descending, I can only say, that nothing in any of the spouts seen by me, ever gave me the slightest reason for such a belief. From the variety of accounts given of water spouts, it would seem almost impossible to establish any general theory on the subject. Dr. Stuart and Mr. Mercer say, they distinctly saw the water carried up into the air. Dr. Lindsay and several persons quoted by Dr. Perkins, plainly saw it descend; while Mr. Colden, at a distance of only forty yards from a spout, positively asserts, that there was no water at all, but a stream of wind descending with violence from the clouds.

For my part, I could not see that any of these principles were applicable to the spouts which I saw. The nearest, remaining within sixty yards of our ship for at least fifteen minutes, afforded a good opportunity of observing it minutely, and so far as this one (which seemed to be like all the others in sight at the time) can go in confirmation of a general theory, it inclines me to the belief of that part of Dr. Franklin's hypothesis, which supposes it to be a body of warm air, rising from the surface of the ocean to the upper and cooler region, where its moisture begins to be condensed into thick vapor by the cold, thus causing the spout to become first visible at its upper end. As the vapors continue to ascend, by constant addition they become denser, and consequently their centrifugal force greater, until being risen above the concentrating currents which compose the whirl, they fly off, spread, and form the cloud.

Even Dr. Perkins, in one of his papers read at the Royal Socie-



ty, June 24, 1756, favors this opinion so far as to say—"If spouts ascend, it is to carry up the warm rarified air, from below, to let down all, and any, that is colder above." But he adds—"If this be so, they must carry it through the cloud, perhaps far into the higher region, making a wonderful appearance at a convenient distance to observe it, by the swift rise of a body of vapor above the region of the cloud." This is an appearance which I have never observed, nor do I conceive it to be at all necessary to the establishment of a fact, that the air is carried upward. Such might be the case if the air ascended in a right line, but as I have already stated, it rises with a spiral motion, and as it becomes denser by contact with a colder atmosphere, it, of course, acquires a greater centrifugal force, which gradually enlarges the upper end of the spout to the trumpet form, until at length it flies off horizontally, thus uniting with, and increasing, the cloud, instead of passing through it. It is possible, that when the upper region is much colder than the lower, the condensation of the ascending air may be so great as to cause part of it to fall again, through the spout, sometimes in the form of rain, or by a concentration of the drops, even a stream may be poured down, which would, in a measure, account for the theory of Doctors Lindsay and Perkins; but I could see no evidence of this, in any of the spouts near our ship. Some of the officers, however, thought they could see water falling within the tube, but all admitted the gyratory motion *upward*, as it was too distinct for a difference of opinion.

As to the nature of the connection of electricity with water spouts, I must leave that point for others to determine. It is, evidently, largely combined with them; but whether as the cause, or merely the consequence of their existence, is a question which you will, no doubt, be able to explain. Spanish navigators of former days fully believed the water spout to be an electrical body, and that it might be broken or dispersed, by presenting it the point of a bright sword, and even some modern writers have asserted, that they *have been broken* by this means.

I know but little of the laws of electricity; but from its palpable force when attracted from one object to another, I should be very unwilling to hold the sword, if I believed in the theory.

You will please excuse the length to which I have drawn out this letter. When I began, it was my intention only to give you a description of the water spouts as I saw them; and to this I beg leave to call your attention, rather than to my own opinions, which are merely the result of observation. A scientific knowledge of the subject might, perhaps, bring me to very different conclusions.

## EVENTS OF THE LATE WAR.

## CONSTITUTION AND GUERRIERE.

UNITED STATES' FRIGATE CONSTITUTION,  
*off Boston Light, August 30, 1812.*

SIR: I have the honor to inform you, that on the 19th instant, at 2, P. M., being in latitude 41, 42, longitude 55, 48, with the Constitution under my command, a sail was discovered from the mast-head, bearing E. by S. or E. S. E., but at such a distance we could not tell what she was. All sail was instantly made in chase, and soon found we came up with her. At 3, P. M., could plainly see that it was a ship on the starboard tack, under easy sail, close on a wind; at half past 3, P. M., made her out to be a frigate; continued the chase until we were within about three miles, when I ordered the light sails taken in, the courses hauled up and the ship cleared for action. At this time the chase had backed his main top-sail, waiting for us to come down. As soon as the Constitution was ready for action, I bore down with an intention to bring him to close action immediately; but on our coming within gun-shot she gave us a broadside and filled away, and wore, giving us a broadside on the other tack, but without effect; her shot falling short. She continued wearing and manœuvring for about three quarters of an hour, to get a raking position, but finding she could not, she bore up, and run under top-sails and jib, with the wind on the quarter. Immediately made sail to bring the ship up with her, and five minutes before six, P. M., being along side within half-pistol shot, we commenced a heavy fire from all our guns, doubly shotted with round and grape, and so well directed were they, and so warmly kept up, that in 15 minutes his mizen-mast went by the board, and his main-yard in the slings, and the hull, rigging, and sails very much torn to pieces. The fire was kept up with equal warmth for 15 minutes longer, when his main-mast and fore-mast went, taking with them every spar, excepting the bowsprit; on seeing this we ceased firing, so that in 30 minutes after we got fairly along side the enemy she surrendered, and had not a spar standing, and her hull below and above water so shattered, that a few more broadsides must have carried her down.

After informing you that so fine a ship as the Guerriere, commanded by an able and experienced officer, had been totally dismasted, and otherwise cut to pieces, so as to make her not worth towing into port, in the short space of 30 minutes, you can have no doubt of the gallantry and good conduct of the officers and ship's company I have the honor to command. It only remains, therefore, for me to assure you, that they all fought with great bravery; and it gives me great pleasure to say, that from the

smallest boy in the ship to the oldest seaman, not a look of fear was seen. They all went into action, giving three cheers, and requesting to be laid close along side of the enemy.

Enclosed I have the honor to send you a list of the killed and wounded on board the Constitution, and a report of the damages she has sustained; also, a list of the killed and wounded on board the enemy, with his quarter bill, etc.

I have the honor to be,  
with very great respect,  
Sir, your obedient servant,  
ISAAC HULL.

The Hon. PAUL HAMILTON, &c.

*Killed and wounded on board the United States frigate Constitution, Isaac Hull, Esq. Captain, in the action with his Britannic Majesty's frigate Guerriere, James A. Dacres, Esq. Captain, on the 20th of August, 1812.*

Killed—W. S. Bush, lieutenant of marines, and six seamen,	-	7
Wounded—Lieutenant C. Morris, Master J. C. Aylwin, four seamen, one marine,	-	7
Total killed and wounded,		<u>14</u>

U. S. frigate Constitution, August 21, 1812.

ISAAC HULL, *Captain*,  
T. I. CHEW, *Purser*,

*Killed and wounded on board the Guerriere.*

Killed—3 officers, 12 seamen and marines,	-	15
Wounded—J. A. Dacres, captain, 4 officers, 57 seamen and marines,	-	62
Missing—Lieutenants Pullman and Roberts, and 22 seamen and marines, supposed to have gone overboard with the masts	-	24
Total killed, wounded, and missing,		<u>101</u>

The Constitution rates 44 guns, and mounted 55, her complement 450 men. The Guerriere rates 38 guns, and mounted 49, her complement 300 men.

Three days before the engagement with the Constitution, the Guerriere spoke the John Adams, Capt. Fash, from Liverpool, and endorsed on his register the following lines:

"Captain Dacres, commander of his Britannic Majesty's frigate Guerriere, of 44 guns, presents his compliments to Commodore Rodgers, of the United States frigate President, and will be very happy to meet him, or any other American frigate of equal force to the President, off Sandy Hook, for the purpose of having a few minutes tête-à-tête."

Captain Hull saved him the trouble of going so far for the desired tête-à-tête, which resulted not quite to the satisfaction and pleasure of Captain Dacres.



*Extract of a letter from Captain Hull to the Secretary of the Navy, dated August 30, 1812.*

"I cannot but make you acquainted with the very great assistance I received from that valuable officer, Lieutenant Morris, in bringing the ship into action, and in working her whilst along side the enemy, and I am extremely sorry to state that he is badly wounded, being shot through the body; we have yet hopes of his recovery, when I am sure he will receive the thanks and gratitude of his country, for this and the many gallant acts he has done in its service. Were I to name any particular officer as having been more useful than the rest, I should do them great injustice; they all fought bravely, and gave me every possible assistance that I could wish. I am extremely sorry to state to you the loss of Lieutenant Bush, of marines; he fell at the head of his men in getting ready to board the enemy. In him our country has lost a valuable and brave officer. After the fall of Lieutenant Bush, Lieutenant Contee, of the corps, took command of the marines, and I have pleasure in saying that his conduct was that of a brave, good officer, and the marines behaved with great coolness and courage during the action, and annoyed the enemy very much whilst she was under our stern."

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UNITED STATES AND MACEDONIAN.

U. S. SHIP UNITED STATES, AT SEA,  
*October 30th, 1812.*

SIR: I have the honor to inform you, that on the 25th instant, being in latitude 29, N. longitude 29 30, W. we fell in with, and after an action of an hour and a half, captured his Britannic Majesty's ship Macedonian, commanded by Captain John Carden, and mounting 49 carriage guns, (the odd gun shifting.) She is a frigate of the largest class, two years old, four months out of the dock, and reputed one of the best sailers in the British service. The enemy being to windward, had the advantage of engaging us at his own distance, which was so great, that for the first half hour we did not use our carronades, and at no moment was he within the complete effect of our musketry or grape; to this circumstance and a heavy swell, which was on at the time, I ascribe the unusual length of the action.

The enthusiasm of every officer, seaman and marine on board this ship, on discovering the enemy—their steady conduct in battle, and precision of their fire, could not be surpassed. Where all met my fullest expectations, it would be unjust for me to discriminate. Permit me, however, to recommend to your particular notice, my first lieutenant, William H. Allen. He has served with me upwards of five years, and to his unremitting exertions in disciplining the crew, is to be imputed the obvious superiority of our gunnery exhibited in the result of this contest.

Subjoined is a list of the killed and wounded on both sides. Our loss, compared with that of the enemy, will appear small. Amongst our wounded, you will observe the name of Lieutenant Funk, who died in a few hours after the action; he was an officer of great gallantry and promise, and the service has sustained a severe loss in his death.

The Macedonian lost her mizen-mast, fore and main-top-masts and main-yard, and was much cut up in her hull. The damage sustained by this ship was not such as to render her return into port necessary, and had I not deemed it prudent that we should see our prize in, should have continued our cruise.

With the highest consideration, I am, yours, etc.,

STEPHEN DECATUR.

The Hon. PAUL HAMILTON.

Killed,	-	-	-	5
Wounded,	-	-	-	7—1 since dead.

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12

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MACEDONIAN.

Killed,	-	-	-	36
Wounded,	-	-	-	68

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WASP AND FROLIC.

NEW YORK, *November 24th*, 1812.

SIR: I here avail myself of the first opportunity of informing you of the occurrences of our cruise, which terminated in the capture of the Wasp, on the 18th of October, by the Poictiers of 74 guns, while a wreck from damages received in an engagement with the British sloop of war Frolic, of 22 guns; 16 of them 32 pound carronades, and four twelve pounders on the main deck, and two twelve pounders, carronades, on the top-gallant-forecastle, making her superior to us in force by four twelve pounders. The Frolic had struck to us and was taken possession of, about two hours before our surrendering to the Poictiers.

We had left the Delaware on the 13th. The 16th had a heavy gale, in which we lost our jib-boom and two men. Half-past 11, on the night of the 17th, in the latitude of 37 degrees north, and longitude 65 degrees west, we saw several sail; two of them appeared very large. We stood from them some time, then shortened sail and steered the remainder of the night the course we had perceived them on. At day-light, on Sunday the 18th, we saw them ahead, gave chase, and soon discovered them to be a convoy of six sail, under the protection of a sloop of war, four

of them large ships, mounting from 16 to 18 guns. At 30 minutes past 11, A. M. we engaged the sloop of war, having first received her fire at the distance of fifty or sixty yards, which space we gradually lessened until we laid her on board, after a well supported fire of 43 minutes; and although so near, while loading the last broadside that our rammers were shoved against the side of the enemy, our men exhibited the same alacrity which they had done during the whole of the action. They immediately surrendered upon our gaining their fore-castle, so that no loss was sustained on either side after boarding.

Our main-top-mast was shot away between four or five minutes from the commencement of the firing, and falling together with the main-top-sail yard across the larboard fore and fore-top-sail braces, rendered our head-yards unmanageable the remainder of the action. At eight minutes the gaff and main top-gallant-mast came down, and at twenty minutes from the beginning of the action, every brace and most of the rigging was shot away. A few minutes after separating from the Frolic, both her masts fell upon deck, the main-mast going close by the deck, and the fore-mast twelve or fifteen feet above it.

The courage and exertions of the officers and crew fully answered my expectations and wishes. Lieutenant Biddle's active conduct contributed much to our success, by the exact attention paid to every department during the engagement, and the animating example he afforded the crew by his intrepidity. Lieutenants Rodgers, Booth, and Mr. Rapp, showed by the incessant fire from their divisions, that they were not to be surpassed in resolution or skill. Mr. Knight and every other officer acted with a courage and promptitude highly honorable, and I trust have given assurance that they may be relied on whenever their services may be required.

I could not ascertain the exact loss of the enemy, as many of the dead lay buried under the masts and spars that had fallen upon deck, which two hours' exertion had not sufficiently removed. Mr. Biddle, who had charge of the Frolic, states that from what he saw and from information from the officers, the number of killed must have been about thirty, and that of the wounded about forty or fifty; of the killed is her first lieutenant and sailing master; of the wounded, Captain Whinyates and the second lieutenant.

We had five killed and five wounded as per list; the wounded are recovering. Lieutenant Claxton, who was confined by sickness, left his bed a little previous to the engagement, and though too weak to be at his division, remained upon deck and showed by his composed manner of noting incidents, that we had lost, by his illness, the services of a brave officer.

I am, respectfully, yours, etc.,

JACOB JONES.

The Hon. PAUL HAMILTON,  
*Secretary of the Navy.*



## CONSTITUTION AND JAVA.

## UNITED STATES FRIGATE CONSTITUTION,

*St. Salvador, January 3d, 1813.*

SIR: I have the honor to inform you, that on the 29th ultimo, at 2, P. M. in south latitude 13, 6, and west longitude 38,—ten leagues distance from the coast of Brazils, I fell in with and captured his Britannic Majesty's frigate Java, of 49 guns, and upwards of 400 men, commanded by Captain Lambert, a very distinguished officer. The action lasted one hour and fifty-five minutes, in which time the enemy was completely dismasted, not having a spar of any kind standing. The loss on board the Constitution was nine killed and 25 wounded, as per enclosed list. The enemy had 60 killed 101 wounded, certainly, (among the latter, Captain Lambert, mortally,) but by the enclosed letter, written on board the ship, (by one of the officers of the Java,) and accidentally found, it is evident that the enemy's wounded must have been much greater than as above stated, and who must have died of their wounds previously to their being removed. The letter states 60 killed and 170 wounded.

For further details of the action, I beg leave to refer you to the enclosed extracts from my journal. The Java had, in addition to her own crew, upwards of one hundred supernumerary officers and seamen, to join the British ships of war in the East Indies: also, Lieutenant General Hislop, appointed to the command of Bombay, Major Walker and Captain Wood, of his staff, and Captain Marshall, master and commander in the British navy, going to the East Indies to take command of a sloop of war there.

Should I attempt to do justice, by representation, to the brave and good conduct of all my officers and crew, during the action, I should fail in the attempt; therefore, suffice it to say, that the whole of their conduct was such as to merit my highest encomiums. I beg leave to recommend the officers particularly to the notice of Government, as also the unfortunate seamen who were wounded, and the families of those men who fell in the action.

The great distance from our own coast, and the perfect wreck we made the enemy's frigate, forbid every idea of attempting to take her to the United States; and not considering it prudent to trust her into a port of Brazils, particularly St. Salvador, as you will perceive by the enclosed letters, No. 1, 2 and 3, I had no alternative but burning her, which I did on the 31st ultimo, after receiving all the prisoners and their baggage, which was very tedious work, only having one boat left (out of eight) and not one left on board the Java.

On blowing up the frigate Java, I proceeded to this place, where I landed all the prisoners on their parole, to return to England, and there remain until regularly exchanged, and not serve in their

possessing capacities in any place or in any manner whatever, against the United States of America, until the exchange shall be effected.

I have the honor to be, etc.,

W. BAINBRIDGE.

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY.

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#### BATTLE OF OSWEGO.

HEAD QUARTERS, SACKET'S HARBOR,  
May 12th, 1814.

SIR: Enclosed is an abstract from the report of Lieutenant Colonel Mitchell, of the affair at Oswego. Being well satisfied with the manner in which the Colonel executed my orders, and with the evidence given of steady discipline and gallant conduct on the part of the troops, I have noticed them in the general order, a copy of which is enclosed.

The enemy's object was the naval and military stores deposited at the falls, 10 miles in the rear of the fort. These were protected. The stores at the fort and village were not important.

I am, etc.,

JACOB BROWN, *Major General.*

HON. SECRETARY OF WAR

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#### LIEUTENANT COLONEL MITCHELL'S REPORT.

I informed you of my arrival at Fort Oswego on the 30th ultimo. This post being but occasionally and not recently occupied by regular troops, was in a bad state of defence. Of cannon we had but five old guns, three of which had lost their trunnions—what could be done in the way of repair was effected—new platforms were laid, the gun carriages put in order, and decayed pickets replaced. On the fifth instant the British naval force, consisting of four large ships, three brigs and a number of gun and other boats were descried at revellie beating about seven miles from the fort. Information was immediately given to Captain Woolsey of the navy, (who was at Oswego village,) and to the neighboring militia. It being doubtful on what side of the river the enemy would attempt to land, and my force (290 effectives) being too small to bear division, I ordered the tents to be pitched on the village side, while I occupied the other with my whole force. It is probable that this artifice had its effect and determined the enemy to attack where, from appearances, they expected the least opposition. About one o'clock the fleet approached. Fifteen boats, large and crowded with troops, at a given signal, moved slowly to the shore. These were preceded by gun-boats sent to rake the woods and cover the landing, while the larger vessels

opened a fire upon the fort. Captain Boyle, and Lieutenant Legate, (so soon as the debarking boats got within range of our shot,) opened upon them a very successful fire from the shore battery, and compelled them twice to retire. They at length returned to the ships, and the whole stood off from the shore for better anchorage. One of the enemy's boats, which had been deserted, was taken up by us, and some others by the militia. The first mentioned was sixty feet long, and carried thirty-six oars and three sails, and could accommodate 150 men. She had received a ball through her bow, and was nearly filled with water.

Picket guards were stationed at different points, and we lay on our arms during the night.

At day-break on the 6th, the fleet appeared, bearing up under easy sail. The Wolf, etc. took a position directly against the fort and batteries, and for three hours kept up a heavy fire of grape, etc. Finding that the enemy had effected a landing, I withdrew my small disposable force into the rear of the fort, and with two companies, (Romaine's and Melvin's,) met their advancing columns, while the other companies engaged the flanks of the enemy, Lieutenant Pierce of the navy and some seamen, joined in the attack, and fought with their characteristic bravery. We maintained our ground about 30 minutes, and as long as consisted with my farther duty of defending the public stores deposited at the falls, which no doubt formed the principal object of the expedition on the part of the enemy. Nor was this movement made precipitately. I halted within 400 yards of the fort. Captain Romaine's company formed the rear guard, and, remaining with it, I marched to this place in good order, destroying the bridges in my rear. The enemy landed 600 of De Watteville's regiment, 600 marines, two companies of the Glengary corps, and 350 seamen.

General Drummond and Commodore Yeo were the land and naval commanders. They burned the old barracks and evacuated the fort about 3 o'clock in the morning of the 7th.

Our loss in killed is 6; in wounded 38; and in missing 25. That of the enemy is much greater. Deserters, and citizens of ours taken prisoners and afterwards released, state their killed at 64, and wounded in proportion—among them are several land and navy officers of merit.

I cannot close this despatch without speaking of the dead and the living of my detachment. Lieutenant Blaney, a young man of much promise, was unfortunately killed. His conduct in the action was highly meritorious. Captain Boyle and Lieutenant Legate merit my highest approbation, and indeed I want language to express my admiration of their gallant conduct. The subalterns, Macomb, Ansart, King, Robb, Earl, McClintock, and Newkirk, performed well their several parts.

It would be injustice were I not to acknowledge and report the zeal and patriotism evinced by the militia, who arrived at a short notice, and were anxious to be useful.



## HORNET AND PEACOCK.

## UNITED STATES SHIP HORNET,

*Holmes' Hole, March 19th, 1813.*

SIR: I have the honor to inform you of the arrival, at this port, of the United States ship Hornet, under my command, from a cruise of 145 days, and to state to you, that after Commodore Bainbridge left the coast of Brazil, (on the 6th of January last,) the Hornet continued off the harbor of St. Salvador, blockading the Bonne Citoyenne until the 24th, when the Montagu 74 hove in sight and chased me into the harbor; but night coming on, I wore and stood to the southward. Knowing that she had left Rio Janeiro for the express purpose of relieving the Bonne Citoyenne and the packet, (which I had also blockaded for fourteen days, and obliged her to send her mail to Rio in a Portuguese smack,) I judged it most prudent to change my cruising ground, and stood to the eastward, with a view of cruising off Pernambuco, and on the 4th day of February, captured the English brig Resolution, from Rio Janeiro, bound to Maranh, with coffee, jerked beef, flour, fustic, and butter, and about 25,000 dollars in specie. As the brig sailed dull, and I could ill spare hands to man her, I took out the money and set her on fire. I then run down the coast for Maranh, and cruised there a short time; from thence ran off Surinam. After cruising off that coast from the 5th to the 22d of February without meeting a vessel, I stood for Demarara, with an intention, should I not be fortunate on that station, to run through the West Indies, on my way to the United States. But on the morning of the 24th I discovered a brig to leeward, to which I gave chase; ran into quarter less four, and not having a pilot, was obliged to haul off—the fort at the entrance of Demarara river at this time bearing south west, distance about two and a half leagues. Previously to giving up the chase, I discovered a vessel at anchor without the bar, with English colors flying, apparently a brig of war. In beating round Corobano bank, in order to get at her, at half past 3, P. M., I discovered another sail on my weather quarter, edging down for us. At 4, 20 minutes she hoisted English colors, at which time we discovered her to be a large man of war brig; beat to quarters, and cleared ship for action; kept close by the wind, in order, if possible, to get the weather gage. At 5, 10 minutes, finding I could weather the enemy, I hoisted American colors and tacked. At 5, 20 minutes, in passing each other, exchanged broadsides within half pistol shot. Observing the enemy in the act of wearing, I bore up, received his starboard broadside, ran him close on board on the starboard quarter, and kept up such a heavy and well directed fire, that in less than fifteen minutes he surrendered, being literally cut to pieces, and hoisted an ensign, union down, from his fore rigging as a signal of distress. Shortly after, his main-mast went

by the board: despatched Lieutenant Shubrick on board, who soon returned with her first lieutenant, who reported her to be His Britannic Majesty's late brig Peacock, commanded by Captain William Peake, who fell in the latter part of the action; that a number of her crew were killed and wounded, and that she was sinking fast, having then six feet water in her hold: despatched the boats immediately for the wounded, and brought both vessels to anchor. Such shot holes as could be got at were then plugged; her guns thrown overboard, and every possible exertion used to keep her afloat, until the prisoners could be removed, by pumping and bailing, but without effect, and she unfortunately sunk in five and a half fathoms water, carrying down thirteen of her crew, and three of my brave fellows, viz: John Hart, Joseph Williams, and Hannibal Boyd. Lieutenant Conner, Midshipman Cooper, and the remainder of the Hornet's crew, employed in removing the prisoners, with difficulty saved themselves by jumping in a boat that was lying on her bows as she went down. Four men, of the thirteen mentioned, were so fortunate as to gain the foretop, and were afterwards taken off by the boats. Previous to her going down, four of her men took to her stern boat, which had been much damaged during the action, which I hope reached the shore in safety: but from the heavy sea running at the time, the shattered state of the boat, and the difficulty of landing on the coast, I much fear they were lost. I have not been able to ascertain from her officers the exact number killed. Captain Peake and four men were found dead on board. The master, one midshipman, carpenter, and captain's clerk, and twenty-nine seamen were wounded, most of them very severely, three of whom died of their wounds after being removed, and nine drowned. Our loss was trifling in comparison. John Place, killed; Samuel Coulsan and Joseph Dalrymple, slightly wounded; George Coffin and Lewis Todd, severely burnt from the explosion of a cartridge. Todd survived only a few days. Our rigging and sails were much cut; one shot through the fore-mast, and the bowsprit slightly injured. Our hull received little or no damage. At the time the Peacock was brought to action, the *L'Espeigle*, (the brig mentioned above as being at anchor,) mounting sixteen two and thirty pound carronades, and two long nines, lay about six miles in shore, and could plainly see the whole action. Apprehensive that she would beat out to the assistance of her consort, such exertions were made by my officers and crew in repairing damages, etc. that by 9 o'clock the boats were stowed, a new set of sails bent, and the ship completely ready for action. At 2, P. M. got under weigh, and stood by the wind to the northward and westward, under easy sail.

On mustering next morning, found we had 277 souls on board, including the crew of the American brig Hunter of Portland, taken a few days before by the Peacock. And, as we had been on two-thirds allowance of provisions for some time, and had but

3,400 gallons of water on board, I reduced the allowance to three pints a man, and determined to make the best of my way to the United States.

The Peacock was deservedly styled one of the finest vessels of her class in the British navy, probably about the tonnage of the Hornet. Her beam was greater by five inches, but her extreme length not so great by four feet. She mounted sixteen twenty-four pound carronades, two long nines, one twelve pound carronade on her top-gallant-forecastle, as a shifting gun, and one four or six pounder, and two swivels mounted aft. I find by her quarter bill, that her crew consisted of 134 men, four of whom were absent in a prize.

The cool and determined conduct of my officers and crew during the action, and their almost unexampled exertions afterwards, entitle them to my warmest acknowledgments, and beg leave, most earnestly, to recommend them to the notice of government.

By the indisposition of Lieutenant Stewart, I was deprived of the services of an excellent officer: had he been able to stand the deck, I am confident his exertions would not have been surpassed by any one on board. I should be doing injustice to the merits of Lieutenant Shubrick, and acting lieutenants Conner and Newton, were I not to recommend them particularly to your notice. Lieutenant Shubrick was in the actions with the *Guerriere* and *Java*. Captain Hull and Commodore Bainbridge can bear testimony as to his coolness and good conduct on both occasions.

With the greatest respect, I remain, etc.,

JAMES LAWRENCE.

Hon. WM. JONES, *Secretary of the Navy*.

P. S. At the commencement of the action my sailing master and seven men were absent in a prize, and Lieutenant Stewart and six men on the sick list.



## GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

## THE LATE LIEUTENANT JAMES H. TAYLOR.

*Tribute of respect to the memory of Second Lieutenant JAMES H. TAYLOR, of the 3d regiment of infantry.*

At a meeting of the officers of the army stationed at Fort Towson, convened in consequence of the death of Lieutenant JAMES H. TAYLOR, who was drowned in attempting to cross the Cossatot river, about seventy miles from Fort Towson, on the 17th October, 1835, the following resolutions were passed:

*Resolved*, That we deeply regret the melancholy and untimely death of our much esteemed friend and brother officer, Lieutenant JAMES H. TAYLOR.

*Resolved*, That in the death of Lieutenant TAYLOR society has lost a bright ornament; his companions in arms a friend, endeared to them by his many manly traits and social virtues; and the army an intelligent and very efficient young officer.

*Resolved*, That the officers of this command warmly sympathise with the relatives and friends of the deceased in this sad bereavement.

*Resolved*, That the officers of this command wear the usual badge of mourning for the space of sixty days.

*Resolved*, That Lieutenant Colonel VOSE, commanding at Fort Towson, be requested to forward to the family of the deceased a copy of these resolutions.

*Resolved*, That a copy of the foregoing resolutions be forwarded to the editors of the Army and Navy Chronicle, the Arkansas Gazette, and the New York Courier and Enquirer, and that they be requested to publish the same.

J. H. VOSE, *Lieutenant Colonel 3d infantry*,

J. B. CLARK, *Captain 3d infantry*,

H. BAINBRIDGE, *First Lieutenant 3d infantry*,

E. B. BABBITT, *First Lieutenant 3d infantry*,

WILLIAM O. KELLO, *Second Lieutenant, 3d infantry*,

CARY H. FRY, *Second Lieutenant 3d infantry*,

THOS. O. BARNWELL, *Brevet Second Lieutenant 3d infantry*,

P. N. BARBOUR, *Brevet Second Lieutenant 3d infantry*,

JOHN B. WELLS, *Assistant Surgeon United States Army*.

*From the New York Times.*

AMERICAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MILITARY AND NAVAL EVENTS.

At a meeting held at the Mayor's office, in New York, on Monday evening last, for the purpose of completing the organization and electing officers of said society, the following gentlemen were chosen for the ensuing year:

*President*, General MORGAN LEWIS.

*Vice Presidents:*

Colonel JOHN TRUMBULL,

General WINFIELD SCOTT,

WASHINGTON IRVING,

Colonel CHARLES GRAHAM,

GEORGE D. STRONG, Esq.

Colonel JAMES WATSON WEBB,

THE MAYOR, *ex officio*.

*Recording Secretaries:*

PHILIP E. MILLEDOLER, JAMES T. BRADY.

*Corresponding Secretaries:*

HAMILTON FISH, JOHN STARK.

*Treasurer*, ABRAHAM LOFEY.

*Committee of Correspondence :*

THOMAS HERTELL,	THOMAS MORRIS,
JAMES FENIMORE COOPER,	Captain M. C. PERRY,
CHARLES A. CLINTON,	Colonel SAMUEL L. KNAPP,
WILLIAM LEGGETT,	General ANTHONY LAMB,
M. M. NOAH,	BARNABAS BATES,
ALEXANDER SLIDELL,	DARIUS DARLING,
Dr. JOHN WOLCOTT.	

## COAST SURVEY.

F. R. HASSLER, *superintendent.*

*Assistants.*—William H. Swift, *Captain Topographical Engineers*, James Ferguson, Edmund Blunt, Constant Eakin, Alexander D. Mackay, *Lieutenant 1st artillery*, Charles Renard, Alfred Livingston, John A. Dahlgren, United States Navy, Hugo Dickens.

*Schooner Jersey.*—T. R. Gedney, *Lieutenant commanding*; A. Griffith, T. J. Page, W. H. J. Robertson, T. A. Jenkins, F. Clinton, B. F. Sands, J. L. Ring, J. Graham, L. Handy, J. Humphreys, *Passed Midshipmen*; G. M. Totten, *Midshipman*.

*Schooner Experiment.*—G. S. Blake, *Lieutenant commanding*; J. P. McKinstry, O. Tod, W. W. Bleeker, Z. Holland, B. J. Moeller, T. A. Budd, T. A. M. Craven, *Passed Midshipmen*; A. McLane, W. C. Craney, *Midshipmen*.

## MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

Captains C. M. Thruston and R. B. Lee, 3d artillery, ordered to repair to Fort King, Florida, and join their respective companies without delay.

First Lieutenant F. L. Jones, 4th artillery, ordered to report in person to Brigadier General Clinch, for duty with the emigrating Indians.

First Lieutenant J. J. Abercrombie, 1st infantry, assigned to temporary duty on recruiting service at Philadelphia, and to take charge of the vacant rendezvous.

Brevet Major Young, 7th infantry, directed to close his rendezvous at Fredericktown, Md. on the 31st December, and ordered to join his company as soon thereafter as circumstances will permit.

First Lieutenant E. C. Ross, 4th artillery, relieved from duty in the Engineer Department, and ordered to join his company.

Brevet Second Lieutenant H. M. Naglee, 5th infantry, assigned temporarily to duty in recruiting service at New York, and on the opening of Lake navigation in the spring will proceed to join his company.

Second Lieutenant C. J. Whiting, 2d artillery, relieved from duty in the Engineer Department, and ordered to join his company.

A detachment of 129 recruits for the regiment of dragoons sailed from New York on the 30th November, for New Orleans, destined for Fort Gibson, under the charge of Brevet Major Belknap, 3d infantry. Lieutenant Nute, 6th infantry, and Lieutenant Izard, of the dragoons, accompanied the detachment.

Lieutenant N. J. Eaton, 6th infantry, assigned temporarily to duty in the office of Commissary General of Subsistence.

Lieutenant D. P. Whiting, 7th infantry, assigned temporarily to duty in the office of the Colonel of Ordnance.

*Changes in the stations of assistant surgeons :*

Dr. Heiskell to repair from Florida to Savannah, and relieve Dr. Birdsall.

Dr. Birdsall, when relieved, will repair to Fort Towson.

At the expiration of his leave of absence, Dr. Myers will repair to Fort Macon, and report for duty.

Dr. Leavenworth, now at New Orleans, on being relieved by Dr. Randall, will proceed to Fort Jesup.

## NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

The United States sloop of war *Fairfield*, Captain Vallette; arrived at Norfolk on the 1st December, from the Pacific, after a passage of 65 days from Valparaiso. The following is a list of her officers:

*E. A. F. VALLETTE*, Esq., *commander*.

*Lieutenants*—James P. Wilson, Henry W. Morris, Samuel Lockwood, John W. Turk.

*Brevet Captain of Marines*—A. N. Brevoort.

*Acting Master*—Edward L. Handy

*Acting Surgeon*—A. G. Gambrill.

*Assistant Surgeon*—M. G. Delaney.

*Chaplain*—Thomas R. Lambert.

*Purser*—John A. Bates.

*Passed Midshipman*—William C. Spencer.

*Midshipmen*—James D. Morrison, John M. Mason, John H. Sherburne, Strong B. Thompson, Alexander R. Rose, Henry Waddell, Charles Sperry.

*Acting Midshipman*—Stephen D. Vallette.

*Captain's Clerk*—Alexander W. Longfellow.

*Gunner*—Lewis Parker.

*Passengers*—Asa Worthington, Esq., United States Consul for Lima, Thomas S. Russell and Charles R. Bispham, of Valparaiso, and Midshipmen D. E. Watson, D. M. Key, A. Harrell, and acting Midshipman Howard Tillotson from the frigate *Brandywine*.

The *Fairfield* sailed from Callao on the 7th September, and left the United States frigate *Brandywine*, schooners *Dolphin* and *Boxer*, the latter to sail soon for the lee coast. Sailed from Valparaiso 26th September.

List of officers ordered to the United States ship *Warren*, at Philadelphia, bound to the West Indies:

*WILLIAM V. TAYLOR*, Esq., *commander*.

*Lieutenants*—S. F. Dupont, Fitzallen Deas, E. Farrand, C. H. McBlair, S. E. Munn.

*Surgeon*—J. F. Brooke; *Assistant Surgeon*, J. W. Plummer.

*Purser*—A. J. Watson. *Acting Master*—J. F. Miller.

*Passed Midshipmen*—W. S. Swann, D. B. Ridgely.

*Midshipmen*—L. Lincoln, jun., R. S. Trapier, J. Mooney, B. F. B. Hunter, E. Donaldson, W. Reed, H. H. Lewis, P. C. Van Wyck, A. Murray, J. G. Tod.

William Hart, *boatswain*; Thomas Robinson, *acting gunner*; William Peterson, *carpenter*; J. G. Gallagher, *sail maker*.

The United States ship *Warren*, Captain TAYLOR, was towed down to Hampton Roads, Monday, 28th December, by the steamboat *Thomas Jefferson*, whence she proceeded to sea, bound to the West India station.

On the passage from the Delaware to the Chesapeake, the crew of the *Warren* suffered very much from the cold weather; some of them were so severely frostbitten as to be rendered unfit for duty.

The United States Ship *Vandalia*, Captain Webb, arrived at Havana, on the 4th December, from a cruise of nearly sixty days at sea. Captain Webb writes to the Secretary of the Navy, that the officers and crew still continue to enjoy uninterrupted health.

*List of officers on board the Vandalia:*

*THOMAS T. WEBB*, Esq., *Commander*.

*Lieutenants*—N. C. Lawrence, E. T. Doughty, S. C. Rowan, *acting*.

*Acting Master*—William M. Walker.

*Lieutenant of Marines*—A. Ross.

*Acting Surgeon*—C. A. Hassler.

*Purser*—J. Brooks.



*Midshipmen*—J. W. E. Reid, R. N. Stembel, L. Maynard, J. N. Brown, E. L. Musson, A. C. Blount, E. T. Drake, M. C. Watkins, T. Alexander.

*Captain's Clerk*, J. E. Brooks; *Boatswain*, John Mills; *Carpenter*, Joseph Cox; *Sailmaker*—M. Wheedon; *Gunner*, — Green.

The United States ship John Adams, Captain STRINGHAM, sailed from Mahon on the 1st November, for a cruise of four or five months, during which it was expected she would visit Malaga, Gibraltar, Cadiz, Lisbon, Madeira, and the Cape de Verd and Canary Islands. All well on board. The John Adams would return to Mahon in March, and it is probable will return to the United States next fall, by way of the coast of Africa and the West Indies. On the 1st November she parted company with the Constitution, Potomac and Shark, all steering east. The Constitution destined to the Levant.

Purser H. Etting has been ordered to the Baltimore station, vice A. J. Watson.

Lieutenant C. H. Davis and Surgeon J. S. Wily have been ordered for duty at the rendezvous, Boston.

Lieutenant W. M. Glendy ordered to the rendezvous at Baltimore.

Lieutenant John Pope, late of the United States ship Erie, has returned to the United States, on physician's certificate, in consequence of ill health.

Lieutenant E. Peck has been detached from the receiving ship at New York, and Lieutenant Manning ordered to supply his place.

Lieutenant G. G. Williamson ordered to ship Warren.

#### RESIGNATION.

Lieutenant E. O. Blanchard, 31 December, 1835.

#### MARRIAGES.

In Hampton, Va., on the 27th November, Midshipman CHARLES M. COLLIER, of the U. S. Navy, to Miss SARAH A. COWLES, of that place.

In Rochester, N. Y., on the 19th Nov., Lieutenant A. R. HETZEL, of the 2d infantry, U. S. Army, to Miss MARGARETTA P. JACK.

At Upper Marlboro, Md., on the 3d Dec., at the seat of David Craufurd, Esq., Dr. JOHN A. KEARNEY, Surgeon U. S. Navy, to Miss MARY A. FORREST, youngest daughter of the late RICHARD FORREST, deceased.

In Baltimore, on the 6th Dec., MILLER GILMORE, Ordnance Sergeant of Fort McHenry, to Miss MARGARET BEGGS, of that city.

In Baltimore, on the 23d December, Mr. W. W. CORCORAN, of Georgetown, to Miss LOUISE A., daughter of Commodore C. MORRIS, of the Navy.

At Shelly, Gloucester county, Va., on the 22d Dec., ALBERTO GRIFFITH, of the U. S. Navy, to CORNELIA M., youngest daughter of the late MANN PAGE, Esq., of that county.

#### DEATHS.

In Philadelphia, on the 28th November, Major PHILIP WAGER, of the 4th infantry, United States Army.

In Philadelphia, on the 14th December, LOUISA, daughter of ROBERT KENNEDY, Esq., navy storekeeper at that place, aged 13 years and 4 months.

In Washington, on the 20th December, CHAUNCEY PAYNE, infant son of Major JOHN GARLAND, of the Army.

In Washington, 20th Dec., CARY S., 6 months, son of Lieutenant JOHN GRAMHAM, of the Navy.

At West Point, N. Y., on the 21st Dec., CHARLES EDWARD, infant son of Lieutenant Colonel R. E. DE RUSSY, aged 21 months and 10 days.

At Fort Smith, A. T., on the 12th Nov., Mr. S. B. LEGATE, late a second Lieutenant 3d regiment U. S. infantry.

At Jefferson Barracks, Mo., on the 21st Dec., BUNNEL P. BERRY, a soldier of the 6th regiment U. S. infantry.

At Jefferson Barracks, Mo., on the morning of the 6th Dec., Mrs. REBECCA KETCHUM, aged 44 years 8 months, relict of Major DANIEL KETCHUM, of the 6th regiment U. S. infantry.